

(No. 24.)



1877.

SESSION IV.

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TASMANIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

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BARTHOLOMEW BRUEN.

MEMORIAL.

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Presented by Mr. Pillinger, October 24, 1877, and ordered by the House to be printed.



*To the Honorable the Speaker and the Members of the House of Assembly.*

The humble Memorial of Bartholomew Bruen, of Brandy Creek, West Tamar, and late of Waratah, Mount Bischoff, Storekeeper.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

1. YOUR Memorialist and his brother arrived in Tasmania from Victoria in September, 1875, with a view of settling at Waratah, near Mount Bischoff.
2. Your Memorialist and his brother purchased land and erected certain buildings in the said township.
3. On the 17th October, 1876, your Memorialist (with two others) was arrested for being illegally on the premises so erected by him and his brother as aforesaid, and taken in custody to Emu Bay, a distance of 46 miles, and kept in custody two days and two nights.
4. The case against your Memorialist and the others was heard before A. B. Willis, Esquire, Stipendiary Magistrate, and two other Justices, on the 30th October, 1876; and the Court reserved its decision until the 4th day of November then next, when the case was dismissed.
5. On the said 30th October, after the hearing of the said case, at about three o'clock in the afternoon, your Memorialist received a summons to appear at eleven o'clock on the same day, to answer the complaint of one Catherine Duncan, for assaulting her; and when, upon the hearing of the case (within an hour of the service of the summons upon your Memorialist), he wished to examine certain witnesses who could have proved his innocence, he was not permitted to do so.
6. The reason, and the only reason, assigned for refusing to hear such witnesses was, that they were present in Court while others were giving their testimony in the same case.
7. On the 27th November, 1876, a charge brought by your Memorialist against one William Grant for a breach of "The Police Act" was heard before the said A. B. Willis, who made an order that Grant should enter into recognizances, himself in £20 and a surety for £10; and calling upon your Memorialist, the complainant, to find sureties in the like amount.
8. On the night of the 27th or the morning of the 28th of November, 1876, your Memorialist, then a resident on the township, was arrested at Waratah on a charge of breaking a pane of glass in the house of one W. J. Thrower; and, after being detained nine days in custody, was admitted to bail, himself in £100 and two sureties in £50 each, for his appearance on the 14th of December, 1876, when he was convicted (in the face of evidence of a confession by another party to the commission of the offence) and sentenced to one month's imprisonment and a fine of £2 2s., which fine was subsequently remitted upon a representation of Mr. Hall, the Solicitor, to the Magistrate of its illegality; but your Memorialist suffered the month's incarceration with hard labour.
9. That your Memorialist has suffered grievous wrong in person and purse at the hands and by the direct action of the Police Magistrate, the said A. B. Willis, and the police in the district; and, feeling that he has and will be denied all redress otherwise, he now appeals to your Honorable House for an enquiry into the conduct of the said A. B. Willis, Esquire, Police Magistrate, and of his subordinates, so that justice may be done in the matter.

And your Memorialist will ever pray, &c.

B. BRUEN.

24th October, 1877.