

(No. 79.)



1866.

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T A S M A N I A.

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**INCOME AND PROPERTY TAX BILL.**

**PETITION FROM DELORAINE AGAINST.**

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Presented by Mr. Dobson, and ordered by the House to be printed, 5 September,  
1866.



*To the Honorable the Members of the House of Assembly of Tasmania,  
in Parliament assembled.*

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Rural Municipality of Deloraine.

SHOWETH :

THAT, in the opinion of your Petitioners, an Income Tax is, in practice, a most objectionable mode of raising the Public Revenue, especially in a small community, and should only be resorted to in the case of an extraordinary emergency ; that no such emergency exists at present ; and that, therefore, the imposition of such a Tax, especially in connection with the proposed abandonment of Customs' Duties, (which are, comparatively, easily and conveniently collected), is calculated to have a most injurious effect upon the best interests of the country.

That, instead of increasing the public burdens by the imposition of additional Taxes of an oppressive character, the Government ought, in the opinion of your Petitioners, to adopt vigorous measures for the reduction of the public expenditure.

That your Petitioners do not consider it expedient to make a great change in the mode of raising the Public Revenue without giving the Constituencies of the country an opportunity of expressing their opinions thereon by means of a General Election.

That your Petitioners consider that the Bill for the repayment of Debentures is unnecessary, and is calculated to exercise a pernicious influence upon the present public securities, by raising doubts as to their value ; and, moreover, that it involves a gross breach of the Constitution of the Colony.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will refuse to give your sanction to the following measures proposed by the Government ; namely, " A Bill to impose Duties on Profits arising from Property, Professions, Trades, and Offices," " A Bill to alter the Duties of Customs," " A Bill further to amend the Marine Board Act," and " A Bill for better securing Repayment of Moneys raised by the Issue and Sale of Debentures."

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

*[Here follow 119 Signatures.]*