

(No. 52.)



1865.

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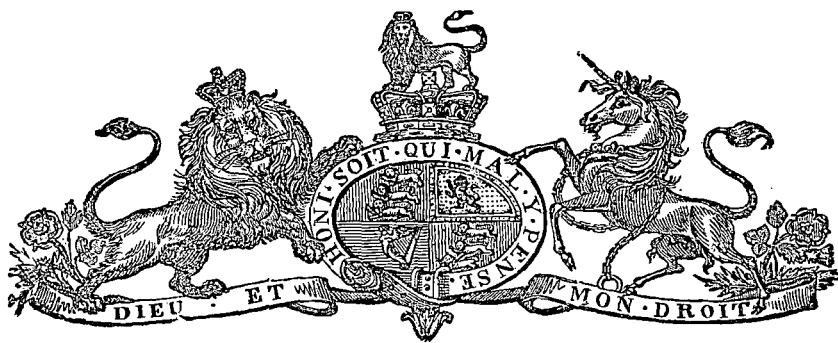
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P E T I T I O N

FROM THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN MACQUARIE ROAD  
TRUSTS AGAINST WITHDRAWING AID TO ROADS.

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Presented by Mr. Dobson, and ordered by the House to be printed, 15 August,  
1865.



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

The Petition of the Ratepayers of the Northern and Southern Macquarie River Road Districts.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

That your Petitioners have been informed that the Colonial Treasurer has moved in his place in the House of Assembly the following Resolution ; viz.—“ That towards making good the Supply to Her Majesty for the year 1866, there be applied in aid of the General Revenue so much of the fourth part of all moneys received in 1865 on account of purchase money, rent, or licence fees of Waste Lands of the Crown as is now set apart by law for the purpose of assisting the several Road Districts with a contribution therefrom for an amount equal to Sixpence for every Shilling raised in such Districts by assessments for road purposes.”

That your Petitioners view with no small dismay the contemplated innovation ; for should the Treasurer's Resolution be carried, the result will be severely felt in the various Road Districts amongst the labouring classes, not only by the abstraction of this sum, but the probability is that great opposition will be raised against a not very popular rate (the Road Rate) by the large land-owners when not supplemented as hitherto.

That the sums granted by the Government and placed at the disposal of the various Boards of Works might with propriety be appropriated towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the year 1866, as such appropriation would not affect the Road Districts in the like injurious manner.

That your Petitioners, being aware that the time that would of necessity be taken up in securing the signatures of all the Ratepayers in both Road Districts would be great, have resolved that this their Petition shall be signed by the Chairman of both Road Districts in their name.

That your Petitioners humbly hope that your Honorable House will take into its favorable consideration this their Petition, and not sanction the Grant in aid of the Road Districts to be appropriated towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the year 1866.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JAMES MERCER, *Chairman Northern M. R. Road Trust.*  
(By order of the Ratepayers.)

ADAM JACKSON, *Chairman of S. M. River Road District.*  
(By order of the Ratepayers.)