

(No. 49.)



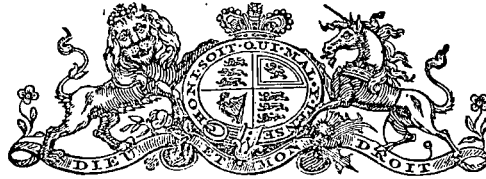
1857.

T A S M A N I A.

P E T I T I O N.

M U N I C I P A L P O L I C E.

Presented by Mr. Nutt, and ordered by the House to be printed, 3 December, 1857.



To the Honourable the House of Assembly of the Colony of Tasmania and its Dependencies, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Hobart Town, in Council assembled.

SHOWETH :

THAT having had under their consideration the Municipal Police Bill, now before your Honourable House, would most respectfully urge upon your attention the necessity of enlarging the provisions of the Twenty-seventh Section of it, whereby it is provided that the only assistance which the Council is to receive for maintaining the City Police is a moiety of all penalties on summary convictions for offences committed in Hobart Town, the remainder of the necessarily large amount which will be required being to be raised by additional Taxation.

Your Petitioners humbly submit that such an arrangement would be inequitable and oppressive. The Ratepayers of this City are already sufficiently taxed, and it is now proposed to inflict upon them additional burthens.

Your Petitioners would respectfully urge upon the attention of your Honourable House the fact, that the chief argument of maintaining the Public House Licence Tax at its present large rate is founded upon the supposition that the trade necessitates the employment of a much more numerous Police force than would otherwise be required. It is therefore, in the opinion of your Petitioners, only just that if the Municipal Council of Hobart Town, in addition to its other duties, is to support the City Police, it should receive the whole of the amount derivable from the sources of Revenue referred to in the answers of His Worship the Mayor to the ninth and tenth questions addressed to him by the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the state of the Public Service, as follows : "Question 9.—In your opinion would the Mayor, with the assistance of the Aldermen, undertake the performance of the Magisterial duties of this City? Answer—We would upon conditions; we would undertake any responsibility, provided we have the means supplied to us to pay for it. Question 10.—What do you think those means should be? Answer—All Revenues in the City derived from Publicans' Licences, Stage Coach Licences, Pawnbrokers Licences, Auctioneers' Licences, Hawkers' Licences, Carriers' Licences, Butchers' Licences, Licences for Places of Amusement, Dog Licences, and all Fines and Licences connected with the City."

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that your Honourable House, in its wisdom, will either so alter the said Twenty-seventh Section as to assign to the Municipal Authorities the collection of, and control over, the Revenues resulting from the above-mentioned sources, or that the proposed Act may not pass into Law.

J. L. STEWART, *Mayor*.

On behalf and by the direction of the Mayor and Aldermen of
Hobart Town.