

(No. 4.)



1857.

T A S M A N I A.

P E T I T I O N

AGAINST THE REPEAL OF THE SUNDAY CLAUSE OF THE LICENSING
ACT FROM MEMBERS OF CHALMERS' FREE CHURCH.

Presented by Mr. Nutt, and ordered by the House to be printed, 23 October, 1857.



To the Honourable the House of Assembly of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Members and Adherents of Chalmers' Free Church Congregation,
Hobart Town.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners have reason to believe that persons directly or indirectly interested in the Liquor Trade are agitating for the purpose of moving Parliament, among other things, for a repeal of the 38th Section, commonly called the Sunday Clause, of the Act of 1854, intituled "An Act to regulate the Sale of Liquors," and for substituting a clause to enable Licensed Victuallers to open their houses for the sale of liquors on the Sabbath Day.

That your Petitioners are of opinion that the prohibition of Sunday selling is not only consistent with the Law of the Christian Sabbath as recognised by the British Nation, but is conducive to social order and good morals; and they venture to submit to your Honourable House, that if in any case the contrary has been the result, it has arisen from the unequal and inefficient administration of the Law.

That in some Districts, more particularly, the existing Law has been contravened by persons in the Trade; and that fines inflicted for breaches of the said 38th Section have been of so trivial a nature as to encourage the further breach of the Law, and to bring the Law itself, as well as its administration, into contempt.

Your Petitioners respectfully refer your Honourable House to the evils attending the opening of Licensed Houses under the former Act on Sundays from one to three in the afternoon, and from eight to nine in the evening; and your Petitioners are decidedly of opinion, that the permission to open Public-houses, even for a limited period, on the Sabbath would be used as a pretext for enlarged traffic, and that the door being once opened for Sunday trading, drunkenness, obscenity, and disorder would again alarmingly prevail.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that, in any alteration to be effected in the present Licensing Law, your Honourable House will be pleased to preserve intact the clause prohibiting Sunday traffic in Public-houses.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

David Hoy
James Fraser
J. Murray
R. Meikle
John Murray
William Walker
George Martin
Hugh Clarke
John Patterson
R. Giblin
F. Moore
John Wood
Geo. Murray

Alex. Cheyne
S. T. Hardinge
Richard Jas. Edwards,
William Murray
John Fletcher
William Graham
R. S. Nicolson
Peter Hunter
William Chandler
A. Livingston
L. Pearson
James Macky
John King

Samuel Lindsay
Charles Bayley
James Bayley
Joseph Lester
Robert Henry
W. McCormack
M. Duncanson
John Duncanson, jun.
James Wilson
Richard Bury
Geo. Morton
P. J. Sinclair
Robert Worley

James Brown
 Griffith Roberts
 Robt. Henry, jun.
 Richard Bury
 Alexander Jack
 P. J. Sinclair
 H. B. Brock
 James Vautin
 W. B. Harcoweke
 Thos. S. Smith
 A. Gellie
 Philip Farmilo
 Daniel Farmilo
 Robert Henry, jun.
 James Martyn Hammett
 Robt. Henry
 John Thomas
 Thomas Murray
 Benjamin McKerras
 William Murdoch
 J. R. Bateman, jun.
 George Pryde
 Henry Tuting
 John Robertson
 James Bailey
 David Goldie
 John Lucas
 R. S. Hall
 John Rawland

Robert Logan
 Samuel Livingston
 Thomas T. Watt
 John White
 George Hall, jun.
 A. B. Hall, sen.
 R. Bernard
 F. S. Edgar
 Thomas Swinton
 Alexander Jacks, jun.
 Joseph Lester, jun.
 William Ferguson
 Alex. Jack
 M. Stump
 John Morgan
 William Nicolson, Minister
 G. Hutton, Elder
 R. G. Gray, Elder
 James Livingston, Elder
 Alex. Ireland
 Robert McCracken
 Angus Cumming
 Jos. Jas. Overell
 Andrew Whitlaw
 Daniel Ferguson
 Daniel Ferguson, jun.
 John Johnston
 David Panton

James McPherson
 Henry Brand
 George Peacock
 Andrew Blackwood
 Thomas Goldie
 John Thomas, jun.
 John Ayton
 David Henderson
 H. Ward
 W. Orme
 Alex. Livingston
 H. H. Bowden
 James Hope
 John Murdoch
 Samuel Sawyer
 A. Alex. Clerk
 Thomas Waddell
 Alex. Spers
 Samuel Sawyer
 Thomas Frodsham
 W. S. Morrison
 John Barrett
 Robert Nash
 William R. Wade
 Samuel Smith, jun.
 William Mair
 Thomas Brown
 C. Hollinsdale.