

(No. 49.)



1860.

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T A S M A N I A.

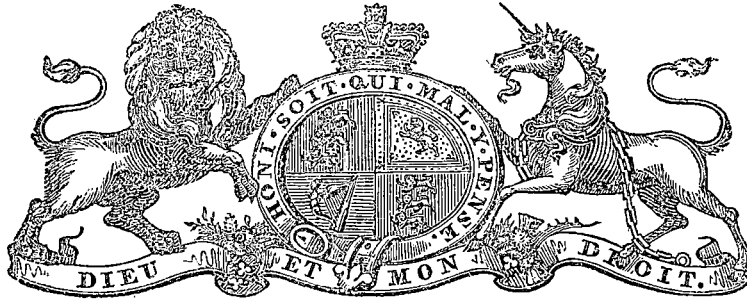
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T H E T A R I F F.

P E T I T I O N.

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Presented by Mr. Wilson, and ordered by the Council to be printed, September 12,  
1860.



*To the Honourable the Legislative Council of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.*

The Petition of the undersigned Merchants, Bankers, Traders, and others of the City of Hobart Town.

HUMBLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners believe that any alteration in the present Tariff, which may lead to the imposition of Duties on Foreign Manufactured Goods for any other purposes than those of Revenue, will be injurious to the true interests of the Colony ; and that any imposts levied on such goods, with a view to exclude them, either wholly or partially, from the Tasmanian Market, will tend to plunge the whole community into increased embarrassment and suffering.

For your Petitioners believe, that any such Duties, if levied only on a portion of imported Manufactures, will, as a matter of course, unjustly tax the consumers thereof, for the supposed benefit of those persons who may be engaged in the production of similar Colonial Goods ; and they feel convinced that, if such Duties be extended to all imported Manufactures, they must tend to the impoverishment of every member of Society, and consequently, to the further depression of the Colony.

For your Petitioners believe that any limitation by Legislative enactment of the free importation of such Goods as the Colony requires, must, as a natural consequence, diminish the exports of those articles which the Colony can spare ; and thus, by tending to the ruin of Tasmanian trade, tend also to the annihilation of Tasmanian industry.

Your Petitioners therefore request your Honourable House to adhere to the principles of Free Trade, and to reject any measure for the imposition of Protective Duties that may be brought before you.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 70 Signatures.]