

(No. 92.)



1888.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

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CAMBRIDGE RABBIT DISTRICT :

PETITION FOR ALTERATION OF BOUNDARIES.

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Ordered by the House of Assembly to be printed, July 11, 1888.



*To His Excellency SIR ROBERT CROOKSHANK HAMILTON, Knight  
Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor  
and Commander-in-Chief in and for the Colony of Tasmania  
and its Dependencies.*

The Petition of the undersigned Landholders of the Electoral District of Richmond.

WE beg most respectfully to protest against the boundaries of the Rabbit District of Cambridge being conterminal with the Electoral District of Cambridge, on the following grounds:—

*Firstly*—That the said Rabbit District is too large for the effectual carrying out of the said Act.

*Secondly*—That the Rabbit Board as at present constituted does not represent the whole District of Cambridge, but only that portion within the Municipal District of Brighton.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that Your Excellency will be pleased to proclaim that portion of the Cambridge Rabbit District which is bounded by the Electoral District of Richmond to be the Rabbit District of Richmond, and that Your Excellency will be pleased to prohibit the Cambridge Rabbit Board levying a rate until this Petition has received your consideration.

And your Petitioners also pray that the boundaries of the Cambridge Fruit District be made conterminal with the Electoral District of Richmond.

[*Here follow 190 Signatures.*]

Dated this twenty-first day of April, 1888.

*To the Hon. the Attorney-General.*

FOR opinion whether the accompanying Petition, which has copies of signatures only upon it, can be accepted or gazetted under Sect. 6, "Rabbit Act." Nothing is likely to come of the publication, because it will be contrary to public policy to accede to it (as the Governor in Council may, or may not do so, as to him may seem fit): but the first question is, can it be gazetted as a Petition, being without signature?

The Petition also relates to Fruit District.

E. N. C. BRADDON.

REFERRED to the Solicitor-General.

A. INGLIS CLARK.  
25th April, 1888.

THE form of Petition is certainly improper. I observe, however, that the original names have been forwarded with the Petition, though not attached to it or written upon it, as should have been done.

The Minister will be quite justified in refusing to accept and gazette Petition. On the other hand, if the Minister feels satisfied that the signatures are *bonâ fide*, I think he will be justified in accepting same.

ALFRED DOBSON.  
1st May, 1888.

RETURNED, with the opinion of the Solicitor-General.

A. INGLIS CLARK.  
2nd May, 1888.

THE Petition cannot be accepted, because of the fact that not a single signature is attached in original to the Petition itself; such a Petition would not be accepted in either House of Parliament, and I cannot think it right to adopt any other principle. I have no means of judging of the *bona fides* of the signatures attached to a blank sheet.

E. N. C. BRADDON.  
2. 5. 88.

2nd May, 1888.

SIR,

*Re* Petition to His Excellency the Governor for an alteration in the boundaries of the Rabbit District of Cambridge, I have the honor to inform you that the Petition cannot be accepted, because of the fact that not a single signature is attached in original to the Petition itself; such a Petition would not be accepted in either House of Parliament, and I cannot think it right to adopt any other principle. I have no means of judging of the *bona fides* of the signatures attached to a blank sheet.

I have, &c.

E. N. C. BRADDON.

WINSTON C. SIMMONS, *Esq.*, *Richmond*.

*Richmond*, 5th May, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, *re* Petition to His Excellency the Governor for an alteration in the boundaries of the Rabbit District of Cambridge, in which you inform me that the Petition cannot be accepted, because not a single signature is attached in original to the Petition.

The Petition which was taken round the district for signature came to my hands in a very dilapidated state, and I thought it best to make a copy, together with the signatures, and I also forwarded the original signatures that they might be compared with the copy. I regret this has not been considered satisfactory, and will be much obliged if you will have the Petition returned, to enable me to forward the same in a more acceptable form.

I have, &c.

WINSTON C. SIMMONS.

*The Hon. the Minister of Lands, Hobart.*

THE original signatures, detached from the Petition, may be sent, and copy of the Petition which bore copies of signatures only. The Petition itself cannot, I think, be returned, because it has passed through the Governor in Council into the possession of Ministers.

E. N. C. BRADDON.  
7. 5. 88.

11th May, 1888.

Petition for alteration of boundaries of Cambridge Rabbit District.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward a copy of the Petition and the sheets containing signatures which were detached.

The Petition cannot be returned, because it has passed through the Governor in Council into the possession of Ministers.

I have, &c.

E. N. C. BRADDON.

WINSTON C. SIMMONS, *Esq.*, *Richmond*.

Richmond, 12th May, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward herewith Petition to His Excellency the Governor for alteration of boundaries of Cambridge Rabbit District, and trust it is now in a form that can be accepted.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

WINSTON C. SIMMONS.

*The Hon. the Minister of Lands, Hobart.*

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*To His Excellency SIR ROBERT CROOKSHANK HAMILTON, Knight  
Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor  
and Commander-in-Chief in and for the Colony of Tasmania  
and its Dependencies.*

The Petition of the undersigned Landholders of the Electoral District of Richmond.

WE beg most respectfully to protest against the boundaries of the Rabbit District of Cambridge being conterminal with the Electoral District of Cambridge, on the following grounds:—

*Firstly*—That the said Rabbit District is too large for the effectual carrying out of the said Act.

*Secondly*—That the Rabbit Board as at present constituted does not represent the whole District of Cambridge, but only that portion within the Municipal District of Brighton.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that Your Excellency will be pleased to proclaim that portion of the Cambridge Rabbit District which is bounded by the Electoral District of Richmond to be the Rabbit District of Richmond, and that Your Excellency will be pleased to prohibit the Cambridge Rabbit Board levying a rate until this Petition has received your consideration.

And your Petitioners also pray that the boundaries of the Cambridge Fruit District be made conterminal with the Electoral District of Richmond.

[Here follow 196 Signatures.]

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TRANSFERRED to Hon. Treasurer for action in regard to the Fruit District.

E. N. C. BRADDON  
17. 5. 88.

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REPLY forwarded to Petitioners *re* Fruit District alteration.

*The Hon. Minister of Lands.*

B. STAFFORD BIRD.  
25. 5. 88.

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*To His Excellency SIR ROBERT CROOKSHANK HAMILTON, Knight  
Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor  
and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Tasmania  
and its Dependencies.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The humble Petition of the undersigned Owners of property of the annual value of not less than Ten Pounds, and Occupiers of not less than Twenty Pounds annual value, in the Municipality of Green Ponds.

WE beg most respectfully to protest against the boundaries of the Rabbit District of Cambridge as being too large for the effectual carrying out of the Act, and that by making the Municipal boundary of Green Ponds the Rabbit District more effectual inspection will be insured.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that Your Excellency will, by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, be pleased to proclaim that portion of the Cambridge District which is bounded by the Municipal District of Green Ponds to be the Rabbit District of Green Ponds; and that Your Excellency will be pleased to prohibit the Cambridge Rabbit Board levying a rate until this Petition has received your consideration.

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

[Here follow 48 Signatures.]

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*Crown Lands Office, 17th May, 1888.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that the Petition of the Green Ponds Landowners *re* alteration of the boundaries of the Cambridge Rabbit District, signed by you as Chairman, was duly presented to His Excellency the Governor.

I have further to state that Ministers, believing that any present alteration of the Cambridge Rabbit District must preclude a fair trial of "The Rabbit Destruction Act," passed last Session, are unable to advise His Excellency to accede to the prayer of the above-mentioned Petition.

I have, &c.

E. N. C. BRADDON.

*The Hon. ALFRED PAGE, M.L.C.*

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*Crown Lands Office, 17th May, 1888.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that the Petition of the Richmond Landowners *re* alteration of the boundaries of the Cambridge Rabbit District was duly presented to His Excellency the Governor.

I have further to state, that Ministers, believing that any present alteration of the Cambridge Rabbit District must preclude a fair trial of "The Rabbit Destruction Act of 1887," are unable to advise His Excellency to accede to the prayer of the Petition above mentioned.

It should be stated that the Members of the existing Board, I am credibly informed, are not only anxious to make the Rabbit Act a success, but desirous to meet the views of the Richmond landowners in every possible way, whether by making vacancies in the Board for Richmond representatives, or by reducing the salary of their Inspector so that Richmond may have an Inspector of its own.

Seeing how willing the people of Brighton are to work harmoniously with their neighbours, I trust that a solution of this question may be arrived at to the satisfaction of all concerned.

I have, &c.

E. N. C. BRADDON.

*W. C. SIMMONS, Esq., Warden, Richmond.*

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*Crown Lands Office, 17th May, 1888.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward you copies of letters sent by me to Messrs. W. C. Simmons and Alfred Page, in reply to Petitions asking for alteration of the boundaries of the Cambridge Rabbit District.

I have, &c.

E. N. C. BRADDON.

*The Chairman Cambridge Rabbit District, Pontville.*