

(No. 46)



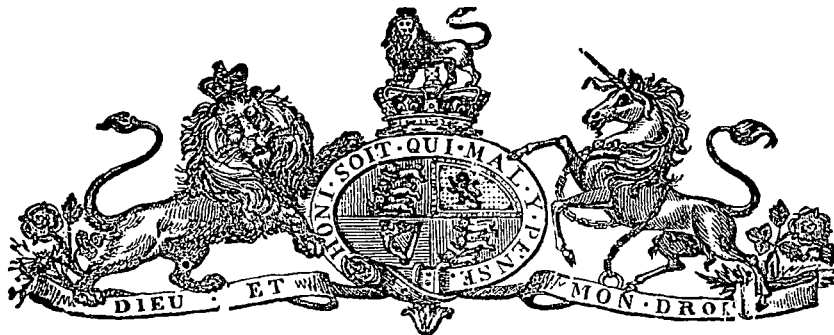
1870.

T A S M A N I A.

U P P E R D E R W E N T.

P E T I T I O N F O R R E S T O R A T I O N O F C E R T A I N L A N D S.

Presented by Mr. James Scott, August 30, 1870, and ordered by the House to be printed.



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

The humble Petition of Landholders residing on the Right Bank of the Derwent.

SHOWETH :

1. THAT on the 8th August, 1860, a Petition was presented to your Honorable House by Mr. T. D. Chapman from 53 Ratepayers of the Upper Derwent Road District, appealing against the injustice of the Hamilton Trustees in expending on the left bank, or Hamilton side of the river, the assessments raised on the right bank. (*Vide* printed paper No. 32, Votes and Proceedings.)

2. That on the 26th September following a Select Committee, composed of Honorable Members of the House having no interest in either District, brought up their Report, declaring "that the allegations contained in the Petition referred to them had been fully established (*vide* printed paper 106), and recommending "that the boundary of the Upper Derwent Road District ought, in accordance with the objects of the promoters of the inquiry, to be extended to the Florentine River." And they add, "Your Committee consider it but right and just that the settlers on the respective banks of the River Derwent may have the funds raised on them laid out in the opening up and improvement of the roads on that side of the river on which their respective properties are situated."

3. That their Report was unanimously adopted by the House; and it was resolved, "that an address be presented to His Excellency praying that His Excellency will be pleased to give effect to the recommendations contained therein."

4. That His Excellency replied that he would cause the recommendations of the House to be carried out; and the extended line to the Florentine River was at once proclaimed a portion of the Upper Derwent Road District.

5. That the extended line remained under the control of your Petitioners until June, 1866, when, on the representation of 10 persons, 2 of whom had no vote in the District, it was re-transferred to the Hamilton Road District, in opposition to the petition of 75 ratepayers who protested against the alteration: and from that period to the present time the assessments raised on the right bank of the River Derwent have been, as before, expended by the Hamilton Trustees (none of whom possess one acre of land on this side of the river) on the left bank, or Hamilton side of the river.

6. That by the alteration of the District our income at the full assessment of One Shilling in the Pound is reduced by £150; and being deprived of that amount we have been prevented from pressing forward the improvement of the continuous line which would open access to and facilitate the settlement of valuable crown lands situated in the area of country so long and so unjustly under the control of the Trustees of the Hamilton Road District, who can have no interest whatever in its progress and improvement.

We therefore pray your Honorable House, in view of the foregoing well-established facts, to restore to the Upper Derwent Road District the lands on the right bank of the Derwent as far as the Florentine River, thereby removing a serious impediment to the occupation of the unsettled portions of those lands, and redressing an unparalleled and intolerable injustice.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[*Here follow 51 Signatures.*]

JAMES BARNARD,
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.