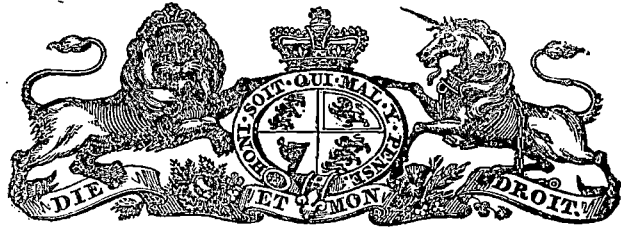


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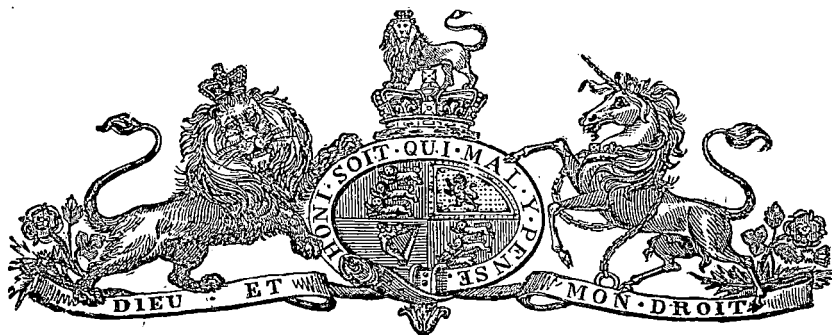
1861.

TASMANIA.

PETITION No. 139.

PROBATE DUTY.

Presented by Mr. Archer, and ordered by the House to be printed,
3 October, 1861.



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

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants residing in the Sub-Districts of Emu Bay and Table Cape, in the Electoral District of Devon.

SHOWETH:

THAT the payment of Probate Duty on Personal Property—as enforced in this Colony by Legislative enactment—is considered by your Petitioners as a great grievance and an impolitic burthen, by reason of its pressing chiefly upon the surviving members of careful and industrious families when in a state, too frequently, of great impoverishment, arising from sickness and death, funeral and testamentary expenses, aggravated by the loss or interruption of trade or other means of subsistence, also in many instances a portion of the stock, implements, and tools, having been sold at a sacrifice to meet the above-mentioned expenses. Moreover, your Petitioners feel that it is a greatly mistaken notion that the tax does not affect the living,—but that, on the contrary, the bed of sickness is often embittered, and the mind of the dying harrassed, by the reflection that their families will be still further called upon to make sacrifices to enable them to pay the Probate Duty.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that, the Probate Duty may be abolished in this Colony.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 29 Signatures.]