

(No 45.)



1861.

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T A S M A N I A .

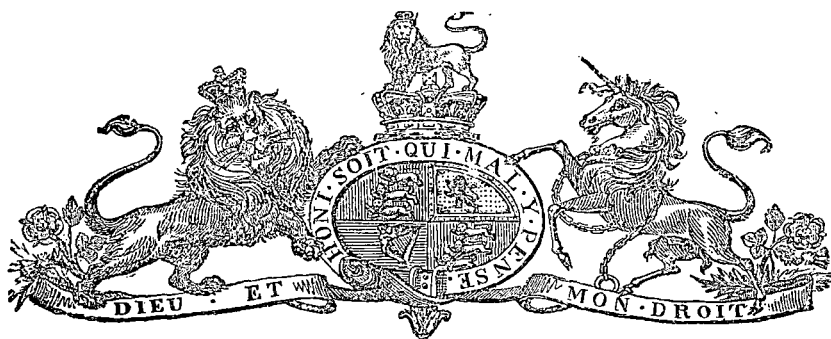
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P E T I T I O N No. 44.

RATEPAYERS—BILL No. 16.

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Presented by Mr. Davies, and ordered by the House to be printed.  
10 September, 1861.



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

The humble Petition of the undersigned Citizen Ratepayers of the City of Hobart Town.

SH EWETH :

THAT your Petitioners view with alarm and extreme dissatisfaction a Bill that has been introduced into your Honorable House, intituled "A Bill to confer additional Powers of making Bye-laws upon the Municipal Councils of the City of Hobart Town and of the Town of Launceston, and to appoint the Mayors of such City and Town, respectively, Coroners."

That your Petitioners observe, that by the said measure, it is proposed to enable the Municipal Councils of the said City and Town to make Bye-laws for supporting the poor, thus introducing a Poor Law system; and that unlimited powers "to make and levy Rates for the purposes of the Act," are also to be conferred upon the said Municipal Councils.

That your Petitioners object to the mode by which it is sought to give the force of Law to a scheme for the relief of the poor, as the subject of Poor Laws is sufficiently important to demand a measure to itself, and, when needed, will require the most earnest attention and the united consideration of all the branches of the Legislature, in order to the production of a just and equitable system.

That one certain effect of carrying out the provisions of this Bill would be, that the bulk of the sick and infirm poor of the country would come, *or be sent*, into the City or Town; and that it may even be anticipated that an influx of pauperism will take place from the neighbouring Colonies.

That the proposal to enable the Municipal Councils to "make and levy Rates for the purposes of this Act," without placing any limit to the amount to be so raised, is most extraordinary; and is such a power as should not be given to any Corporation or other body of men.

That for these and many other cogent reasons, your Petitioners pray that your Honorable House will not pass the "Bill to confer additional Powers of making Bye-laws upon the Municipal Councils of the City of Hobart Town and of the Town of Launceston, and to appoint the Mayors of such City and Town, respectively, Coroners."

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

[*Here follow 574 Signatures.*]