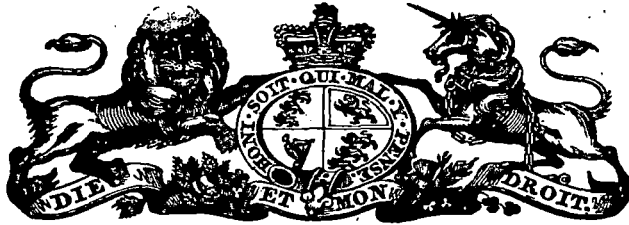


(No. 130.)



1888.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

CODLIN MOTH BILL, 1888, (No. 29):

PETITIONS.

Presented by Mr. Watchorn, September 12 and 13, 1888; and ordered by the
Legislative Council to be printed.



*To the Honorable the President and Honorable Members of the
Legislative Council, in Parliament assembled, in Tasmania.*

The Petition of the undersigned Fruitgrowers,

HUMBLY SHOWETH :

THAT the provisions of the proposed Codlin Moth Bill of 1888, if passed into law, will seriously hamper the fruitgrowing industry of this Colony, and injure the interests of the fruitgrowers.

That Clause 44 makes it lawful for the Governor in Council to appoint as many Inspectors or other officers as he sees fit in addition to local Inspectors.

Clause 34 empowers the Governor in Council to levy a tax per acre on orchards without specifying or limiting the amount to be levied.

Clause 50 empowers the Boards, or Inspectors where there are no Boards, to order trees to be cut down in certain cases.

Clause 8 empowers Government to abolish Fruit Boards without assigning any reason for doing so.

Such legislation is arbitrary and unnecessary, and the present law is preferable; therefore your Petitioners beg that your Honorable House will throw out the proposed Bill.

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

[Here follow 107 signatures.]

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

The humble Petition of the undersigned Fruitgrowers in the District of Longley, in Tasmania, prayeth your Honorable House not to pass the Bill, entitled "A Bill to make better provision for the Destruction of the Codlin Moth."

YOUR Petitioners would submit that under the present Act they are now put to much unnecessary trouble and expense in being called upon to make a Rate to pay the Chief Inspector and his subordinate officers, although they have not the pest in their district, nor require any advice as to the management of their orchards.

Under the new Bill it is proposed to invest the Chief Inspector with arbitrary power to appoint Sub-Inspectors under him, with power to compel all fruitgrowers to cultivate and dress their orchards in any way they may direct. In many cases such treatment would involve an outlay on the fruitgrower of from ten to twenty pounds per acre, yet there is no proof that the treatment prescribed (see Regulations) would effect the least possible good towards eradicating the Codlin Moth, did such an insect exist in the district.

The provision giving power to Inspectors to overhaul cargoes of fruit in transit, and carts on their way to market, is particularly objectionable and arbitrary, besides being a dead loss to the owner, as all cases thus opened would be scattered and lost.

Your Petitioners would therefore pray your Honorable House to reject the proposed Bill, and allow the fruitgrowers of Tasmania to continue to cultivate their orchards and lands as heretofore (as in England and all civilized countries) without any restrictive legislation whatever.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 36 signatures.]

WILLIAM THOMAS STRUTT,
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.