

(No. 65.)



1865.

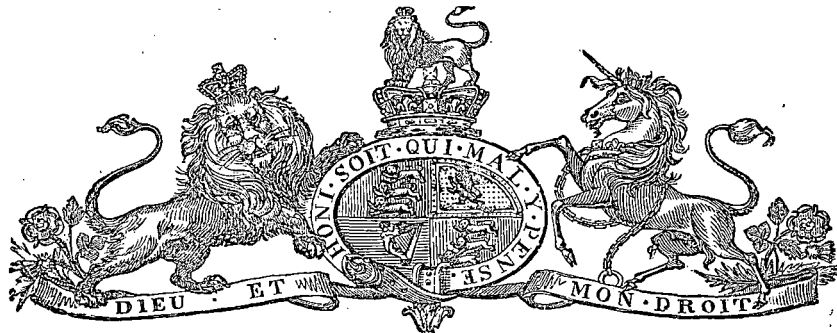
T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

LAUNCESTON AND WESTERN RAILWAY.

PETITION FROM MR. W. W. WHITE.

Presented by Sir R. Dry, September 13; and ordered by the Council to be printed,
September 14, 1865.



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

The Petition of the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, in Meeting duly assembled.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT Petitioners have learnt with satisfaction that a Bill to empower the construction and maintenance of the Launceston and Western Railway is now before your Honorable House.

That the said Bill contains Amendments of the original draft Bill introduced into the House of Assembly, which, whilst not affording any additional security to the Government, impose serious obstructions to the practical working of the said Bill, and must largely increase the cost of the said Railway, to the great injury and loss of the Northern Districts.

That to render obligatory immediate payment of the entire capital of a Joint Stock Company, and not to permit the same to be paid up by periodical "Calls" as may be required by the current expenditure of the Company, Petitioners respectfully submit is without precedent in legislation.

That Petitioners believe that on the question of the Bill becoming operative or not, a majority of votes at a poll duly taken for the purpose should be deemed to be sufficient, inasmuch as ample protection is afforded to property by the scale of voting provided in the said Bill, under which the larger proprietors are entitled to as many as ten votes.

Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will cause the said Bill to be amended, so that the capital of the Company may be paid up in the usual manner of periodical "Calls," as from time to time required for current expenditure, or, say, in four "Calls" of Twenty-five thousand Pounds each, and so that the Company may borrow from time to time as such "Calls" are paid up; and further that the aforesaid poll be decided by a majority of votes,—a course of proceeding which is deemed sufficient under "The Cross and Bye Roads Act," and other Acts of this Colony.

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

Signed by order and on behalf of the Chamber,

W. W. WHYTE, *Chairman.*