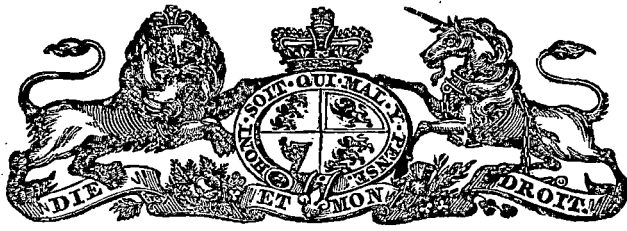


(No. 53.)



1868.

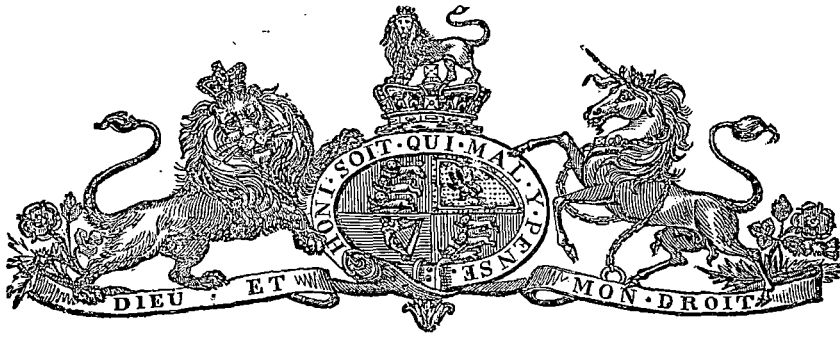
T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

STATE AID COMMUTATION BILL.

PETITION AGAINST PASSING, FROM PROTESTANT ALLIANCE.

Presented by Mr. Fysh, August 21; and ordered by the Council to be printed,
August 26, 1868.



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

The Petition of the Members of the "Tasmanian Protestant Alliance."

MOST RESPECTFULLY AND HUMBLY PRAYETH :

THAT the Bill introduced into your Honorable House, which purports to be a Bill to commute the Annual Grant of £15,000 a year which has been paid by the Colony as State Aid to Religion since the introduction of Responsible Government, be not passed by you into law.

That your humble Petitioners are of opinion that there is in this Bill a question involved of so grave and important a character that it should be remitted to the several constituencies throughout the Island, as it was not brought under their consideration at the last general election, when other important questions were put forward before the public mind.

That they are further of opinion that this question could be settled differently, more satisfactorily, and more in accordance with the wishes of the majority of their fellow-Colonists, than it can be by this Bill, especially at a time like the present when the several interests of the Colony are in a depressed condition, and when the Colonists generally are looking for a different policy on the part of Ministers to remove that depression.

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

[Here follow 91 Signatures.]