

(No. 51.)



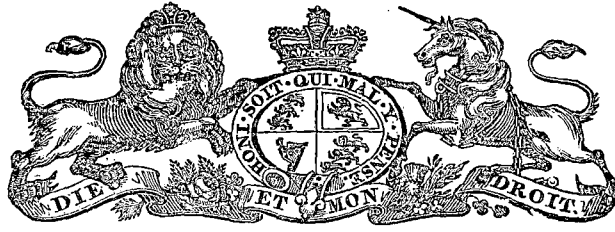
1857.

TASMANIA.

P E T I T I O N.

HUON ROAD.

Presented by Mr. Balfe, and ordered by the House to be printed, 3 December,
1857.



To the Honourable the House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Franklin and Victoria, on the Huon, unanimously adopted at a numerous Public Meeting, convened on Requisition, and presided over by the Police Magistrate at Franklin, October 27th, 1857.

SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners have observed with satisfaction that Ministers have stated it to be their intention to place on the Estimates for 1858 the sum of, at least, £5000 towards the construction of a Road from Hobart Town to the Huon River; and deem it right to state to your Honourable House, that the various Settlements on the Huon River now contain a considerable population, and contribute a large proportion to the Colonial Revenue. That the Exports of this District in Timber are in value second only to that of Wool in the staple Exports of the Colony, besides a large amount of Agricultural produce, and of Fruit. That it contains Four Road Districts, numerous places of Worship, and Public Schools. Yet, although the Huon River is within 22 miles of Hobart Town in a direct line, there are no means of communication between the two places, excepting by Steam-boat running a distance of some 60 miles, or by a bush track which is almost impracticable even as a horse-road, and to traverse which requires from 6 to 7 hours of time. That, in order to fully demonstrate the practicability of a Road for vehicles between Hobart Town and the Huon, your Petitioners, at an expense of £300, have cut a track through the bush, which track has been since surveyed by Mr. Ballantyne, and reported on by Mr. Calder, as proving that a good Road may be constructed without more than the ordinary difficulty. That the proposed Road will lay open for Sale some 30,000 Acres of Agricultural and desirable Land, and a valuable tract of Timber Country, within 5 miles of Hobart Town. That your Petitioners would respectfully intimate that the Huon River, although one of the principal Rivers of the Island, is yet without a Bridge.

That your Petitioners would venture to call attention to the fact, that should the Unsettled Lands Bill, now before your Honourable House, pass into Law, the proposed Road would be the direct key to the large and valuable South-western District of the Island,—the only extensive District now unlocated, within an easy distance of Hobart Town, in which it is proposed, in the above Bill, to grant and lease Land on liberal terms; and that a Road to, and a Bridge over, the Huon would greatly facilitate the settlement of the above-named District.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray your Honourable House to give favourable consideration to any measure which may have for its object the formation of such Road and Bridge, and the settlement of the valuable tract of country embraced in the above-named Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed at the request and on behalf of the Meeting,

E. A. WALPOLE, *Chairman.*

George Whiting
T. F. Merry
William Dwyer
A. Geo. Pogue
C. Donnolly
F. H. Grattidge
Jas. Hortin
Mark Webb
Thos. Spooner

James Coleman
Henry Chesterman
Henry Brown
William Cuthbert.
Robert Cuthbert
Frederick Hortin
Henry Hortin
Elijah Knickols
John Surtees White

John Hay, Junior
Rev. Henry Bristo Giles
Anthony Keirnen
Richard Chick
John Wm. Weawell
Joseph Jackson
John Fitzpatrick
Patrick Hill
Joseph Burnip

William Studley
Thos. Freeman
Thos. Tucker
Charles Satcher
Philip Ballantyne
William Ballantyne
Thos. Judd
Willm. Judd
Henry Judd
Jno. Kellaway, J.P.
Thos. S. Kellaway
Jas. Griggs
John Clark
James Freeman
Robt. Mitson
Francis Baker
D. B. Tinning
Emanuel Brown
James Chitty
John Latham
G. Mooney
Josh. Jones
George Coppin
Elijah Brown
Isaac Brown
William Tunncliff
John Rathbone

James Thomas
Stephen Geeves
Isaac Geeves
Henry Johnson
Richard Hill
William Geeves
R. Hickman
William Geeves
James Howe
John Geeves
Frederick Sharp
James Gill
David Boyce
Joseph M'Ribon
James Shannon
Thomas Lowe
George Bennett
John Murphy, Catholic
Chaplain
Geo. Lloyd
Wm. Barnett
John Lloyd
Ernest Scott, J.P.
W. L. Dawson, Surgeon
J. & G. Quadling
Thomas Crawford
James Walker

William Walker
Thomas Cox
Arthur Allen
William Jones
Robert Lovett
Charles Henry Cook
Edwin Cook
William Philp
John Jolly
George Phillips
Rob. Stanton
J. R. Gourlay
A. Jager
Thomas Cheesman
John Wolley
R. J. Clark
John Thorp
C. F. Williams
George Sloper
Henry J. Daldy, J.P.
Stephen Line
Thomas Inches
Jas. M'Laren
W. Hawkins
William Fletcher.