

(No. 78.)



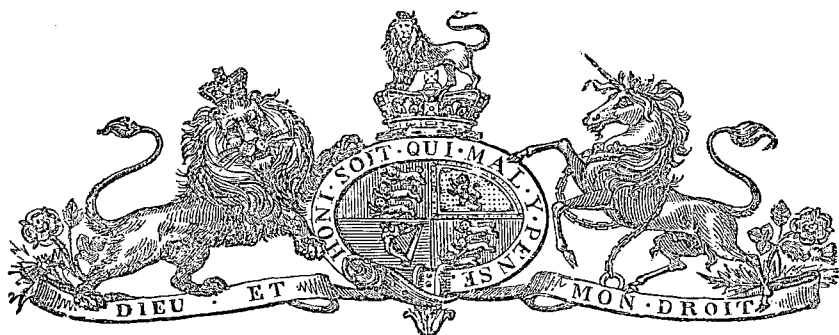
1861.

T A S M A N I A.

P E T I T I O N N o . 8 3 .

S T A T E A I D .

Presented by Mr. Sharland, and ordered by the House to be printed,
26 September, 1861.



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

The humble Petition of the undersigned, Inhabitants of Macquarie Plains.

SHOWETH :

THAT in every State, and in all times, with very few exceptions, some public provision has been made for the maintenance of the worship of Almighty God.

That such provision has been made in Tasmania, without interruption, since the first establishment of the Colony.

That within the last few years, Her Majesty the Queen was pleased to grant to the Colony a new Constitution, and to place her Domain within the Colony at the disposal of the Tasmanian Parliament.

That by *The Constitutional Act*, it was deliberately and expressly provided, that a sum of Fifteen thousand Pounds should be reserved from the Revenue, and applied to the above-named sacred use, in such manner as should seem fit to the Legislature.

That the religious bodies, not directly partaking of this Reserve, constitute only an eleventh part of the entire population, and share in the moral and social advantages which result from it to the community at large.

That any inequalities, incidental to the application of the Reserve, afford no sufficient ground for its discontinuance.

That the discontinuance of the Reserve would probably be followed by an increase of ignorance and crime, and consequently, by increased charges on the Revenue.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that your Honorable House will continue to reserve from the Revenue for Public Worship, an amount not less than that provided by *The Constitutional Act*.

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

[*Here follow 87 Signatures.*]