

(No. 26.)



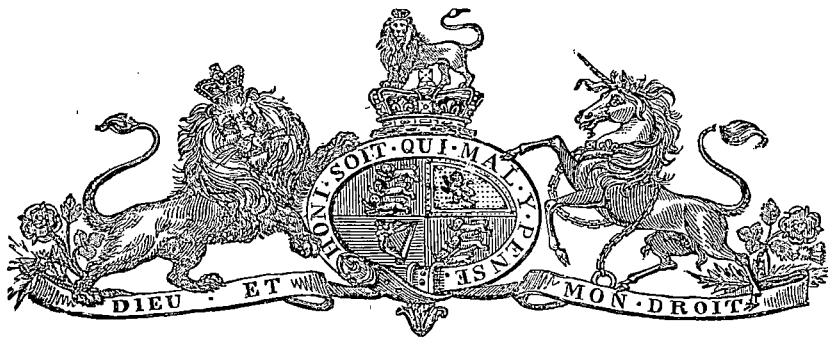
1859.

TASMANIA.

STATE AID.

PETITION FROM THE MERSEY.

Presented by Mr. Nairn, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
8 September, 1859.



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

The Petition of the undersigned Residents of the Mersey.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners are fully alive to the importance of true Religion, and earnestly desire its extension throughout the Community.

2. That they believe that this will be best effected by leaving its support and diffusion exclusively to the spontaneous offerings of its professors,—those who prize its sacred ordinances, appreciate its privileges, and are sensible of its solemn obligations.

3. That they believe that the system at present pursued by the State of affording pecuniary aid to various Religious bodies is productive of many evils, without a single advantage.

4. That the condition of the Public Finances is such that they ought to be at once relieved from a heavy annual charge, which can only be met by increased taxation.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honourable House to adopt such measures as will relieve the Revenue of the Colony from all charges for Ecclesiastical purposes.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 46 Signatures.]