

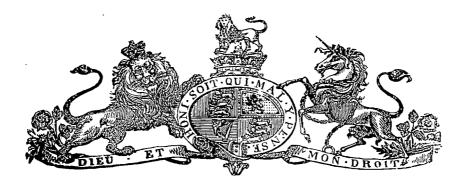
1886.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

VACCINATION AMENDMENT BILL, 1886, (No. 20):

PETITION FOR REJECTION.

Presented by Dr. Agnew, November 19, and ordered by the Legislative Council to be printed, November 24, 1886.



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

The Petition of the undersigned Medical Practitioners in Tasmania,

HUMBLY SHEWETH:

That your Petitioners learn with regret that a Bill has been brought into Parliament for the repeal of the Compulsory Clauses of the Vaccination Act, 1882.

That in every country Compulsory Vaccination has invariably been attended with success as a preventive of the inception of small-pox, and a palliative of its effects when introduced; and that this success has always been proportionate to the completeness of the measures taken to insure universal vaccination.

That the refusal of allowing children to be vaccinated not only creates a danger to the public health, but inflicts an injury upon those who cannot protect themselves, and therefore have a claim to be protected by law.

That Compulsory Vaccination is enforced in nearly every civilised community, and more particularly in free and enlightened countries.

That not only has Vaccination greatly diminished the death-rate from small-pox, but that diminution has not been attended by an increased mortality from any other disease; on the contrary, the death-rate from all diseases, especially among infants, has gradually decreased since the introduction of Vaccination, thus proving that its compulsory practice has not had any evil secondary effects upon public health.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House to reject the Bill for amending the Vaccination Act, 1882.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

Charles J. Parkinson, M.B. Lond. J. A. Hardy. H. A. Perkins, M.D. J. Lever, L.R.C.S. Ed. Thos. C. Smart, F.R.C.S. Ed. Edward L. Crowther, M.D. Bingham Crowther, L.R.C.P., &c., Lond.
C. E. Barnard, M.D.
Edward O. Giblin, M.D.
Gaml. H. Butler, M.R.C.S. Eug.
J. Edgar Wolfhagen, M.B.
Ernest J. Crouch, M.R.C.S. Eng.

[The above were the only autograph signatures to the Petition.]