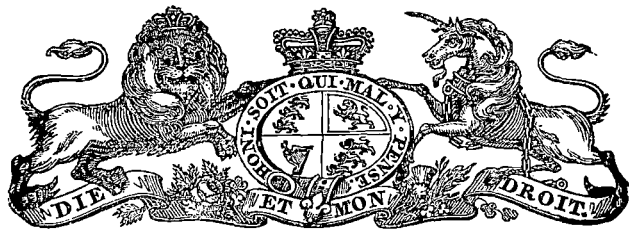


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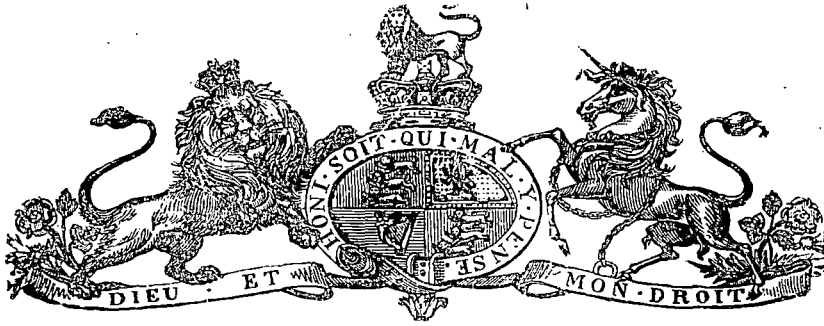
1887.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

MEANDER RIVER, DELORAINÉ :

PETITION THAT CERTAIN WATER RIGHTS BE NOT LEASED.

Presented by Mr. Hart, and ordered by the House of Assembly to be printed,
November 18, 1887.



*To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly
of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.*

The Petition of the undersigned Residents and Property Owners in the Town and
Municipality of Deloraine,

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. THAT Petitioners have seen with surprise an application for a lease to certain water rights, permission to dam the River Meander, and divert the water along the East Esplanade on the Town of Deloraine.

2. That if such application be granted in any degree it will open a door to the plunder of public rights and property by private greed or corruption in all Municipalities.

3. That any interference with the people's rights by a race or dam will divert a large portion of the river into an unsightly ditch at ordinary levels, and divert the whole of the water in summer, leaving, necessarily, a succession of stagnant pools, instead of our beautiful river, where the people fish, draw their supply of water from, and water their cattle.

4. That any dam in the river will seriously affect all fords and much private property.

5. That any race or fluming must pass under the Deloraine Bridge and the Deloraine Railway Bridge.

6. That if any water power exists it should be reserved for public use as a motor for lighting or pumping for public purposes.

7. That the public have gone to much expense in planting these Esplanades and Parades on both sides of the river, and had hoped to continue such planting from time to time, and improve our beautiful Town.

8. That we humbly submit that these Parades and Esplanades are public property, and the heritage of the people and their children for ever; and that, without an Act of Parliament, no portion of these public lands and river privileges can be taken from the people.

9. That Parliament, some ten years ago, emphatically condemned the action of a former Minister in granting similar water rights on the West Esplanade, which rights had to be restored to the public.

10. We therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House may again defend the people's rights, and prevent this injustice, which, if allowed, would be a lasting cause of bitterness and disgust.

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

[Here follow 35 Signatures.]