(No. 100.)



1885.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

EAGLES AND NATIVE TIGERS:

PETITION FOR POWER TO LEVY RATE FOR DESTRUCTION OF, FROM MUNICIPALITY OF SPRING BAY.

Presented by Mr. Gray, August 14th, and ordered by the House to be printed, August 19th, 1885.



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

The humble Petition of the undersigned,

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :

THAT your Petitioners are Sheepowners in the Municipality of Spring Bay.—That we have found that the Native Tigers and other destructive animals are making such serious inroads on our flocks that many of us fear we shall have to abandon the Crown Lands occupied by us and give up sheep farming altogether, unless some means can be devised for combating this evil.—That a number of your Petitioners have formed themselves into an Association for the destruction of the Native Tiger and the Eagle, the plan being to pay certain rewards to persons capturing and destroying these vermin.—That the labours of the Association have been crowned by a good measure of success; but contributions being voluntary, the funds have failed, the claims upon them being greater than they could meet, and thus the Association has been compelled regretfully to practically close its labours. And your Petitioners respectfully submit that if these vermin were destroyed from off the Crown Lands, now their chief habitat, not only would present holdings be rendered much more remunerative, but much larger areas of Crown Land would be occupied, to the material benefit of the Colony. And your Petitioners crave that if funds were available for rewarding successful hunters of these pests, much and permanent good would be effected in the cause that your Petitioners have so much at heart, and therefore your Petitioners crave that your Honorable House will be pleased to pass an Act which will confer power on the Municipal Council of this District to levy a rate not exceeding one halfpenny per head on all sheep depasturing in this District, the fund so collected to be employed exclusively for the destruction of the Native Tiger and the Eagle,—or such other measure as will in your wisdom meet the urgency of our need.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 26 Signatures.]

WILLIAM THOMAS STRUTT, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.