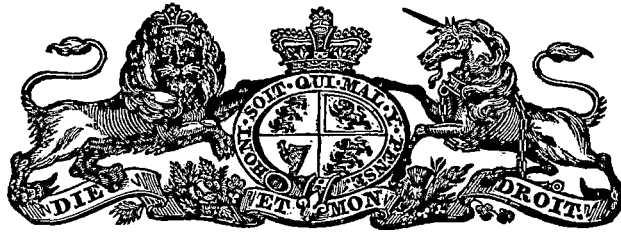


(No. 8.)



1857.

T A S M A N I A.

P E T I T I O N

AGAINST REPEAL OF THE SUNDAY CLAUSE—INDEPENDENT
CHURCH, LAUNCESTON.

Presented by Dr. Officer, and ordered by the House to be printed, 27 October, 1857.



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

The humble Petition of the Independent Church and Congregation assembling in Tamar-street, Launceston.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners have reason to believe that persons directly or indirectly interested in the Liquor Trade are agitating for the purpose of moving Parliament, among other things, for a repeal of the 38th Section, commonly called the Sunday Clause, of the Act of 1854, intituled "An Act to regulate the Sale of Liquors," and for substituting a clause to enable Licensed Victuallers to open their houses for the sale of liquors on the Sabbath Day.

That your Petitioners are of opinion that the prohibition of Sunday selling is not only consistent with the Law of the Christian Sabbath as recognised by the British Nation, but is conducive to social order and good morals; and they venture to submit to your Honourable House, that if in any case the contrary has been the result, it has arisen from the unequal and inefficient administration of the Law.

Your Petitioners respectfully refer your Honourable House to the evils attending the opening of Licensed Houses under the former Act on Sundays from one to three in the afternoon, and from eight to nine in the evening; and your Petitioners are decidedly of opinion, that the permission to open Public-houses, even for a limited period, on the Sabbath would be used as a pretext for enlarged traffic, and that the door being once opened for Sunday trading, drunkenness, obscenity, and disorder would again alarmingly prevail.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that, in any alteration to be effected in the present Licensing Law, your Honourable House will be pleased to preserve intact the clause prohibiting Sunday traffic in Public-houses.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

On the behalf of the Church and Congregation,

Charles Price, Pastor.
R. Pescodd, Deacon.
D. Room, ditto.