

(No. 104.)



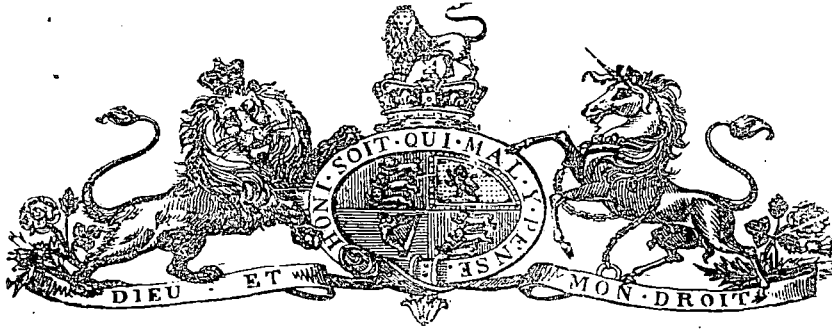
1886.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

**REAL AND PERSONAL ESTATES DUTY
PROPOSALS:**

PETITIONS FOR AMENDMENT.

Ordered by the House of Assembly to be printed.



[Presented by Mr. Bird, 15th September, 1886.]

To the Honorable Speaker and Honorable Members of the House of Assembly.

THE humble Petition of a number of the Electors of the Electoral District of Franklin, assembled in Public Meeting at Franklin, on the 14th September, 1886,

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners strongly disapprove of the Taxation proposals of the Government.

That they have requested their Member to oppose them.

That they deputed the Chairman of the above-named meeting to sign on their behalf a Petition praying your Honorable House to reject the proposals of the Government.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will reject the said proposals.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

Signed, on behalf of the Meeting,

J. W. KELLAWAY, *Chairman of Meeting.*

[Presented by Mr. Bird, 15th September, 1886.]

To the Honorable the Speaker and Honorable Members of the House of Assembly.

THE humble Petition of a number of the Electors of the Electoral District of Franklin, assembled in Public Meeting at Geeveston, on the 13th September, 1886,

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT the following Resolutions were submitted at the Public Meeting of Electors, and agreed to :—

1. That all unimproved alienated land may fairly be required to contribute to the Revenue of the State in proportion to its present capital value.

2. That all improved alienated land may fairly be required to contribute to the Revenue of the State in proportion to its present capital value, after deducting therefrom the present capital value of all improvements effected thereon by the private expenditure of the owner.

3. That inasmuch as all improvements effected on the land by the enterprise of the owner represent capital invested for his personal profit or advantage, it is unjust to tax capital invested in this form, which capital otherwise invested for its owner's profit or advantage is not taxed at all.

4. That as a tax on all the improvements on land is essentially a tax on the income derivable therefrom, it is unjust to tax incomes thus derived while incomes which are obtained from other sources, and which are equally earned and enjoyed under the protection of the State, are not taxed at all.

5. That the proposal now before the Legislature to tax the capital value of all improvements on land, in addition to a tax on the value of the land alone, is an inequitable one, because the effect will be to tax the industry, thrift, and income of one portion of the community, while it leaves the thrift, industry, and income of the other portions wholly untaxed.

6. That the proposal to tax the capital value of all the improvements on land should either be abandoned, or accompanied by another which should have the effect of putting an equal tax on all capital invested in other ways, or on all incomes derived from other sources.

7. That in any proposal to tax improvements on land, accompanied, as such a proposal should be, with a tax on capital invested in other ways, or on incomes derived from other sources, an exemption ought to be made in favour of all those whose income from property or other sources is under two hundred pounds (£200) per annum.

8. That the foregoing Resolutions be embodied in a Petition, to be signed on behalf of the meeting by the Chairman, and presented to the House of Assembly by the Member for the District.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to give due consideration to the expressions of opinion herein set forth.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed, on behalf of the Petitioners

JOHN GEEVES, *Chairman of Meeting.*

[By Dr. Crowther, Tuesday, 21st September, 1886.]

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

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Kingborough District,

HUMBLY SHOWETH :

THAT we, the undersigned owners and occupiers of Land in the Kingborough District, protest against the proposed tax on the improved capital value of property as an unjust tax, which will reduce the value of land property and prevent and retard improvements.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will abandon the proposed scheme of taxing the improved capital value of land.

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

[Here follow 111 signatures.]

Port Cygnet, 20th September, 1886.

[By Mr. R. J. Lucas, 22nd September, 1886.]

To the Honorable House of Assembly of Tasmania in Session assembled.

This Petition of the Taxpayers of Victoria, Huon,

HUMBLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners, being in meeting assembled to discuss the proposal of the Government to materially alter the present mode of assessment for the Real Estates Duties Tax, did pass the following Resolutions unanimously:—

1st. This meeting sees with feelings of deep gratitude that the Government recognises the agriculturists as the "part of the community" upon whom the present Real Estate Duties Tax presses most unfairly.

2nd. This meeting rejoices in the fact that Government propose to put a small portion of their burden upon the broad shoulders of large, wealthy, and absentee landowners.

3rd. This meeting has very grave doubts as to the proposal of the Hon. the Attorney-General realising the expressed wish of the Government; but, on the contrary, feel certain instead of relieving us will grievously add to our burdens.

4th. This meeting considers the proposal of the Hon. the Attorney-General will prove to be unfair in its operation, unequal in its incidence, and bear most heavily on those who are least able to bear it.

5th. This meeting, looking at the great depression of the agricultural interest, and at the pressure of an undue portion of taxation, therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass into law the taxation proposals now under consideration.

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

Signed, on and behalf of the Meeting,

JOHN LINNELL, *Chairman.*
ARTHUR R. BOWCHER, *Chairman.*

[By Dr. Crowther, 28th September, 1886.]

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the District of Kingborough to the Honorable the House of Assembly,

SHOWETH :

THAT, in the opinion of the undersigned, the Government proposals to amend "The Real Estate Duties Act" are unacceptable,—

1st. Because they would impose a tax upon improvements without taxing other sources of income.

2nd. Because they give to the Governor in Council a power to purchase property which is calculated to impugn the rights of property-owners.

And, that the Honorable House will not pass the said Bill, your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 41 signatures.]

[By Mr. Gray, 28th September, 1886.]

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

The Petition of the undersigned Property-holders, Ratepayers, and Inhabitants of Coppington, Bream Creek, and surrounding neighbourhood, in the Electoral District of Sorell,

SHOWETH :

THAT there is a Bill now before your Honorable House to further amend "The Real and Personal Estates Duties Act, 1880," clauses in which it is proposed to tax property with its improvements on its capital value, and to give the Government certain powers of purchase.

Your Petitioners are opposed to the form of special taxation upon the improvements made by the labour, industry, and capital of your Petitioners, but are not opposed to a tax on capital value without improvements.

Your Petitioners pray that your Honorable House will not pass the said Bill or allow it to become law.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 21 signatures.]

[Presented by Mr. Bird, 28th September, 1886.]

To the Honorable the Speaker and Honorable Members of the House of Assembly.

The Petition of the Electors of Franklin, assembled in Public Meeting at Esperance on the 27th September, 1886.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT a Public Meeting was held for the purpose of considering the provisions of the Bill for the amendment of the Real Estate Duty Act.

That at the Meeting above named it was resolved—

- "(1.) That the proposal of the Government to tax all land, together with the improvements thereon, at its capital value, is inequitable, unless it be accompanied by a proposal to tax at the same time all other sources of income.
- "(2.) That the proposal to give to the Governor in Council the arbitrary power to purchase any property at 10 per cent. above the owner's valuation on the refusal of the owner to pay what he considers to be an exorbitant assessment by the Commissioner, is one which seriously threatens the rights of ownership.
- "(3.) That a Petition embodying the foregoing Resolutions, and praying that the obnoxious proposals referred to may not be passed into law, be signed by the Chairman, on behalf of the meeting, and presented to the House of Assembly by the Member for the District."

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will not agree to the proposal to tax all land, with the improvements thereon, at its capital value, unless such a tax is accompanied by one on all other sources of income; and, further, that your Honorable House will reject the proposal to give the Governor in Council power in any case to purchase property at 10 per cent. above the owner's valuation.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed, on behalf of the Petitioners,

WALTER DRYSDALE, *Chairman of Meeting.*

[Presented by Mr. Bird, 29th September, 1886.]

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

The humble Petition of Electors of Cumberland and New Norfolk, adopted at a Public Meeting at *Gretna Green Hotel*, this 23rd day of September, 1886, and signed, on behalf of the said Electors, by the Chairman of the Meeting,

SHOWETH :

THAT the Electors aforesaid petition your Honorable House to reject the Government proposals to tax the capital value of land, including improvements made thereon, unless the said proposals include an income tax to be levied upon incomes derived from professions or trade; and in that case, or in any case, your Petitioners pray your Honorable House to reject Sections 22, 23, 24 of the Real and Personal Estates Duties Amendment Bill, which sections would, if passed, give the Government power to resume any man's land upon payment of 10 per cent. over the owner's valuation.

Your Petitioners are of opinion that such sections, if passed into law, are calculated to open the door to oppression, and are calculated to jeopardise the tenure of real estate in this Colony.

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

T. C. H. MARZETTI,
Chairman of Meeting referred to in body of Petition.

[Presented by Mr. J. Gray, 29th September, 1886.]

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

The Petition of the undersigned Property-holders, Ratepayers, and Inhabitants of portions of the Road District of Carnarvon.

SHOWETH :

THAT there is a Bill now before your Honorable House to further amend "The Real and Personal Estates Duties Act, 1880," whereby it is proposed to tax property on its capital value to the amount for which the fee simple would sell for cash if the land, together with all improvements, if any, on such land, were to be sold.

That such proposal is calculated to discourage improvements, which, being of a perishable character, deteriorate in value. Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will not pass Sections 3, 4, 22, and 57 into law, and that your Honorable House will reject any measure where the land is to be taxed on its capital value with improvements.

Your Petitioners do not object to a tax on unimproved lands, and pray your Honorable House to take this Petition into favourable consideration.

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

D. VICARY.
THOMAS WRIGHT.

The following Petitions, in the same terms, were also presented during the said Session :—

Property-holders, Ratepayers, Cascades.	Mr. Gray.	28th September.	47 signatures.
Ditto ditto, Electoral District of Sorell.	Ditto.	Ditto.	61 ditto.
Ditto, ditto, Wedge Bay	Ditto.	Ditto.	7 ditto.
Ditto, ditto, Carnarvon	Ditto.	29th September.	18 ditto.
Ditto, ditto, South Arm	Ditto.	22nd September.	—