

(No. 82.)



1879.

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T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

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**CUSTOMS DUTIES BILL, [No. 26]:**

**PETITION OF BOOTMAKERS, &c.**

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Presented by Mr. Chapman, February 3; and ordered by the Council to be printed, February 5, 1880.



*To the Honorable the President and the Honorable Members of the Legislative Council of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.*

The humble Petition of the undersigned Boot and Boot-upper Manufacturers residing in the City of Hobart Town, in Tasmania.

SHOWETH :

1. THAT your Petitioners have read the Customs Duties Bill which is to be presented to this Honorable House for its assent.

2. That your Petitioners wish to impress upon the Members of this Honorable House the necessity for encouraging local industries ; and your Petitioners wish to compete with New South Wales, Victoria, and the other Australian Colonies in the manufacture of Boots and Boot-uppers.

3. That your Petitioners notice with regret that it is sought in the said Customs Duties Bill to impose a duty of 10 per cent. on all Boot Grindery, Machine Silks, and Threads, and other raw material used by your Petitioners in the manufacture of their goods, and also a duty of Two Shillings and Sixpence per cwt. on all Nails and Tacks used by them in their said trade.

4. That, if these duties be imposed, the colonial market will be overstocked with manufactures from the Australian Colonies, and the native industry would thus receive a severe check. Your Petitioners believe that all the raw material used in the trade in the Australian Colonies is admitted duty free, and the said Colonies thus have greater facilities than a smaller Colony like Tasmania.

5. That your Petitioners assert that the Boot and Boot-upper Manufacturers of Tasmania employ a larger number of hands than any other manufacturing industry in Tasmania, and the effect of imposing this duty on the raw material in their trade will be that many will be compelled to give up, and thus throw a considerable number of workmen out of employment.

6. That your Petitioners desire humbly to represent to your Honorable House, that raw material used by them for manufacturing purposes is a proper item to be exempted from duty, if only for the purpose of encouraging local industry.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will give its best and most favourable consideration to the subject of this Petition.

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

[Here follow 65 Signatures.]