

(No. 108.)



1871.

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T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

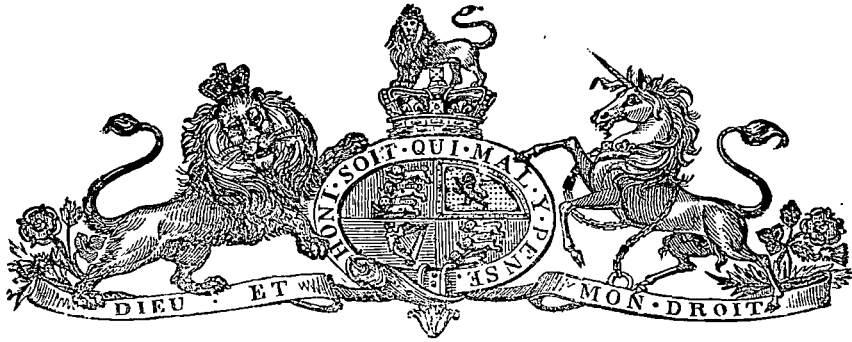
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K I N G B O R O U G H.

P E T I T I O N O F T I M B E R T R A D E R S A S T O F E E S O F L I C E N C E S.

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Laid upon the Table by the Minister of Lands and Works, and ordered by the House to be printed, November 30, 1871.



To His Excellency CHARLES DU CANE, Esquire, Governor of Tasmania  
and its Dependencies.

The Memorial of the undersigned Landholders, Householders, and others interested in the revival of the  
Timber Trade of the Electoral District of Kingborough.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Memorialists regret that, owing to the want of means whereby persons engaged in preparing timber for the markets would be enabled to utilise the many vast forests abounding in the finest timber, and which now for want of roads are inaccessible to splitters and sawyers in this District, the timber trade of the District is all but annihilated.

That your Memorialists beg leave to call Your Excellency's attention to the fact that the splitters and sawyers have been the principal means of opening up for sale and settlement the greater proportion of the heavily timbered lands of the District, and which are now occupied by selectors under the various Lands Acts. That so far from receiving any encouragement from the Government, whose property they open up to settlers at their own expense, selectors take advantage of the roads made by the splitters and sawyers to purchase the lands thus made accessible, and without any consideration by those who sell or by those who purchase for those who provided them with roads. That your Memorialists understand that in at least one portion of the District the Local Road Board has been obliged to expend something like forty pounds sterling in giving assistance to open a way into a very valuable bed of timber, the product of which will give employment to local industry, and assist in upholding the interests of trade, shipping, and commerce in Hobart Town.

That your Memorialists are of opinion that where the interests of the Colony at large are promoted by the opening of new springs of industry and natural wealth, the resources of the General Revenue ought to bear the burthen of the required expenditure, instead of leaving that which was intended to provide for special local purposes liable to the costs.

That your Memorialists are quite willing to submit to the payment of any reasonable fees for licences to cut or use timber in such beds as are opened at the expense of the General Government; but they respectfully submit that to compel those who provide means of access to good timber beds, and to lands suitable for sale and settlement, at their own expense, to pay licence fees equal in amount to those who use good slab roads, constructed at the sole cost of the Government, is neither a fair, a just, nor equitable arrangement.

Your Memorialists therefore respectfully pray that Your Excellency may submit to your Responsible Advisers the representations herein contained, and that Your Excellency will urge the necessity of their being promptly and favorably considered.

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

[Here follow 248 Signatures.]

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JAMES BARNARD,  
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.