

(No. 67.)



1874.

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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.

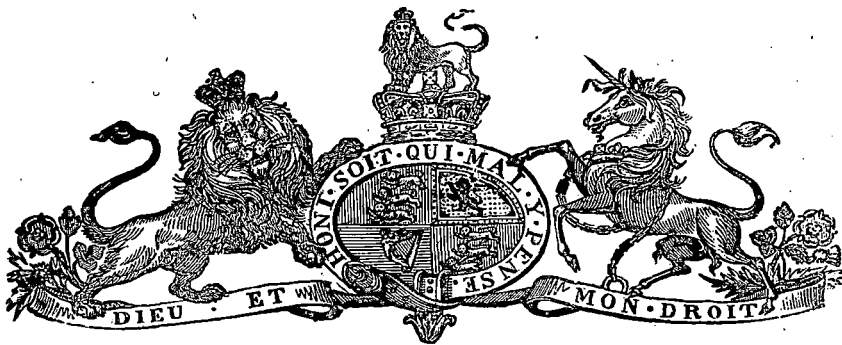
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F I N G A L.

P E T I T I O N F O R A R A I L W A Y S U R V E Y.

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Laid upon the Table by Mr. Douglas, and ordered by the House to be printed,  
August 13, 1874.



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

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the District of Fingal, Avoca, Mathinna, Cullenswood, St. Mary's, Falmouth, George's Bay, Stony Creek, and elsewhere on the Eastern Coast of Tasmania.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :—

THAT your Petitioners inhabit a large, well-populated, and important agricultural District on the eastern side of the main road through Tasmania, which greatly needs railway accommodation for the development of its resources.

That the construction of a Railway or Tramway branching from the Main Line Railway about Willis's Corners or Cleveland, and running to Fingal and St. Mary's, would directly benefit a population numbering over 3500 ; and enable the rich and valuable land lying on either side the Railway to be brought into immediate and profitable cultivation, and thereby support a much larger population, and greatly increase the wealth and resources of the whole Colony.

That, in addition to the well-known agricultural wealth of the District, there are situated on either side of the proposed Tramway vast deposits of coal, iron, gold, and other minerals that can only be utilised when such a Railway is made.

That the quantity of coal alone lying in the hills on either side of the valley through which the Railway should pass has been proved and found practically inexhaustible, and of good value for manufacturing and domestic use.

That there are no great engineering difficulties to be overcome in making the Railway, which for the greater part of its course would pass over a plain that is obviously highly favourably for Railway construction, and that therefore the Railway could be very quickly and economically constructed.

That all corresponding Districts in the Colony will be provided with efficient Railway communication through the Main Line, the Launceston and Western, and Mersey and Deloraine Tramway ; and therefore your Petitioners have a just claim for the extension of this system to their District.

That such a Railway would be a benefit to the whole Colony in opening up for settlement the large quantity of valuable Crown Land on either side of it, in yielding to the revenue a considerable return from royalties and mining licences, in the carriage of the mails, and from the great increase in number of taxable consumers, owing to the numerous and important industrial enterprises that would certainly be originated in such a favourable locality.

Your Petitioners therefore beg that Your Excellency will resolve upon such an undertaking being carried out with all reasonable expedition, and will during the approaching Session appropriate a sum of money for making a survey, and the necessary arrangements for the execution of the works.

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

[Here follow 249 Signatures.]

JAMES BARNARD,  
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.