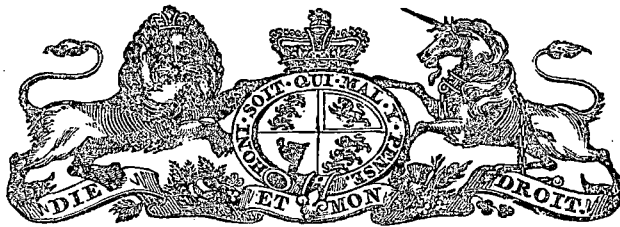


(No. 42.)



1865.

T A S M A N I A .

R E F O R M A T O R Y B I L L .

P E T I T I O N F R O M V E R Y R E V . D R . H A L L .

Presented by Mr. Horne, and ordered by the House to be printed, 8 August,
1865.



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

The humble Petition of the Very Reverend William Hall, Doctor of Divinity, Vicar-General, and Acting Head of the Roman Catholic Church in the Island of Tasmania.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT a " Bill for the Amendment of the Law relating to Neglected Children and Juvenile Offenders" is now before your Honorable House.

That Section Nine of the said Bill provides, with reference to Industrial and Reformatory Schools established partly by private contribution, that no Child shall be sent to any one of these Schools unless he or she shall be a member of the religious denomination or of one of the religious denominations for which the School is supported; but no rule is laid down by which the religion of the Child is to be ascertained.

That Petitioner is of opinion that the religion of a legitimate Child should be decided by the Parents, and that of an illegitimate Child by the Mother; but when there are no Parents the Child should be brought up in that religion in which it was baptized, or appears to have been baptized.

That Section Twenty-seven provides that Children may be sent out to service on certain conditions, but no provision is made to prevent the employers from interfering with the religion of the Children.

That Petitioner is of opinion that a guarantee ought to be given by the employers of Children notto interfere with the religion of such Children.

That your Petitioner, being persuaded that many difficulties and much unpleasantness will arise on account of these important omissions, and feeling deeply the great responsibility now resting upon him; most humbly and fervently entreats your Honorable House to make such additions to the Bill as your Honorable House may consider in its wisdom sufficient to obviate these difficulties and prevent all unpleasantness.

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

WILLIAM HALL, *D.D.*, *Vicar-General.*