

(No. 144.)



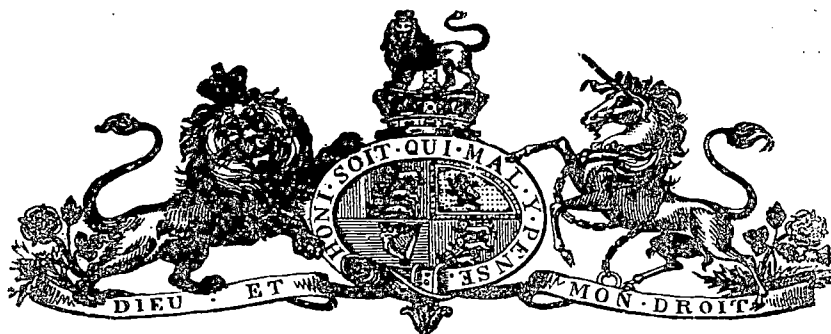
1890.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

N O X I O U S T R A D E S A R E A .

PETITION FROM REV. G. T. HEYWARD AGAINST COMPLETION
OF AREA.

Presented by Mr. Hartnoll, September 11, and ordered by the House of Assembly
to be printed, September 12, 1890.



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

The Petition of Rev. G. T. Heyward, of "Tamarleigh," Newnham, near Launceston,

HUMBLY SHOWETH :

That your Petitioner observes that a site for a "Noxious Trades Area" has been selected near the Mowbray Racecourse, at the head of the Newnham Creek.

That a survey has been made for carrying the sewage of said "Area" into the tidal inlet of said Newnham Creek at high-water mark ; and that a sum of money is placed upon the Estimates for effectually carrying out the above scheme.

In view of the above facts, your Petitioner craves permission to point out to your Honorable House the great inconveniences and heavy monetary loss which the above proposals will inflict upon him.

About seven years since, being in broken health and thereby incapacitated from following my profession, I was in search of a site for erection of a permanent residence. Induced largely by the healthiness of this locality, its facilities for summer bathing and boating, and the fact that property was steadily increasing in value by the growth of suburbs of Launceston in this direction, I purchased land here, and have spent over £4000 in erection of residence and other improvements. Up to the present time my expectations of improved health, &c. have been fully realised.

But should the "Noxious Trades" be located where proposed, it will destroy this property for my purposes and also render it unsaleable as a suburban residence.

This will plainly appear to your Honorable House from following considerations :—

1. The proposed sewage outlet will discharge the filthy and ever-increasing drainage right under my windows, and at a distance of not over 400 yards. The very frequent westerly and north-westerly winds must carry the stench and noxious gases directly into every room of my house ; and as the surveyed sewage outlet is not directly into the River Tamar, but into the tidal inlet of the Newnham Creek, and about 150 yards from low-water mark, the offensive drainage will be bare and uncovered day and night, excepting at the short periods of high water. Can such a situation continue to be healthy? Would any person in search of a home purchase a property disqualified by existence of such a dangerous nuisance?

2. Further, my boat-house, containing expensive boat and outfit, stands within 10 feet of the proposed sewage outlet pipe, and close by the boat-house a spring-board has been set up, as this tidal inlet is the one only spot along the shallow muddy shore where a plunge-bath can be obtained, and is therefore largely frequented as a bathing-place by all the inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

Your Honourable House will clearly see that, if not just at present, yet by degrees, as the "Area" becomes the "Footscray" of Launceston, all bathing and boating in this inlet will be at an end. The destruction of these facilities for health and recreation must prove ruinous to a suburban property.

3. Further, being myself well acquainted with the contour of the country around the proposed "Area," and having also sought the opinion of experts in the matter, I am in a position to affirm positively that, whatever precautions be taken to prevent it, the surface drainage of the "Area" will inevitably fall into the Newnham Creek at its source and pollute it throughout. The greater part of the inhabitants use this water for all domestic and other purposes, and this creek also waters my milch cows and other stock, so that I lose my main water supply in addition to other injuries inflicted.

In conclusion, I am certain your Honorable House will not permit any taxpayer to be treated harshly and unjustly in this matter.

I have appealed to the Central Board of Health, Hobart, but so far have received no reply from it, and have therefore appealed to you.

Seeing that the carrying out of the proposed plan will entail such serious inconveniences upon me, and be so crippling from a financial point of view, I pray that your Honorable House will not complete the arrangements for acquiring the said "Noxious Trades Area."

And your Petitioner will ever pray, &c.

G. T. HEYWARD.

"Tamarleigh," Nennham, near Launceston.