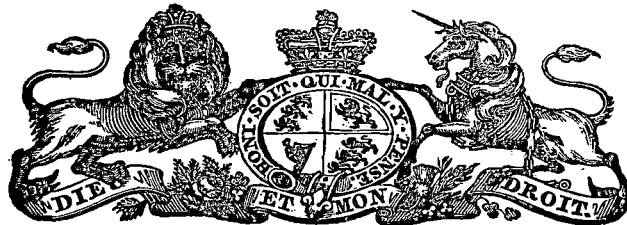


(No. 110.)



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.

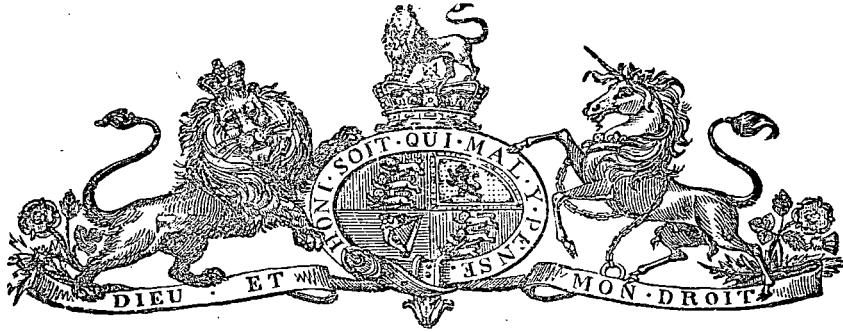
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**U P P E R D E R W E N T R O A D D I S T R I C T.**

P E T I T I O N A S T O B O U N D A R I E S.

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Presented by Mr. Jackson, and ordered by the House to be printed, December 1,  
1871.



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

The humble Petition of Michael Fenton, Chairman of the Upper Derwent Road District.

SHOWETH :

THAT in 1860 a Petition was presented to your Honorable House from the Ratepayers of the Upper Derwent Road District appealing against the injustice of the Hamilton Trustees, as detailed in the printed Paper No. 32. That a Select Committee was appointed composed of Messrs. Chapman, Balfe, Butler, Rooke, and Sherwin. That the Committee brought up the report declaring that the allegations contained in the Petition referred to them had been fully established (*vide* printed Paper No. 106), and recommending "that the boundary of the Upper Derwent Road District ought, in accordance with the object of the promoters of the enquiry, to be extended to the Florentine River; and your Committee consider it but right and just that the settlers on the respective banks of the River Derwent may have the funds raised on them laid out in the opening up and improvement of the roads on that side of the river on which their respective properties are situated." That the Report of the Committee was unanimously adopted by the House, and that an Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will be pleased to give effect to the recommendation, which was accordingly complied with, and the extended line to the Florentine was duly proclaimed a portion of the Upper Derwent Road District, in which it continued until June, 1866, when the subsequent Ministry transferred it to the Hamilton District in opposition to the 75 Ratepayers who protested against the alteration. From that period to the present time the assessments raised on the right bank of the River Derwent have been, as before, expended by the Hamilton Trustees on the left bank or Hamilton side of the River, not one of whom have an acre of land or any local interest in it.

In 1869 another Petition was presented by the Ratepayers of the right bank for redress, and a Committee was appointed, but they brought up no Report in consequence of a prorogation; therefore, in 1870, another Petition was presented, and a Committee was appointed, who brought up a Report recommending a course totally at variance with the Road Act, and consequently illegal, and null and void. On these grounds, in the name of the Ratepayers, your Petitioner prays that your Honorable House will, in justice to them, take the matter into consideration, and redress a grievance so injurious to the prosperity of the District, as the Hamilton Trust have already had the control and expenditure of the assessments for a period of between 14 and 15 years, without having ever laid out a Sixpence on the right bank, where the money was raised, during that time.

MICHAEL FENTON, *Chairman Upper Derwent Road Trust.*

1st December, 1871.