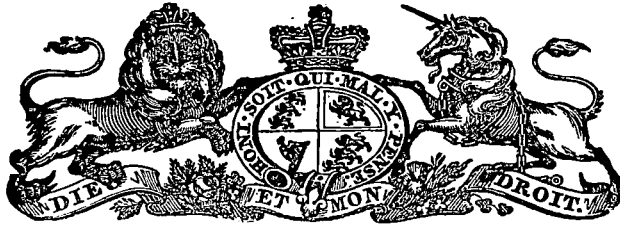


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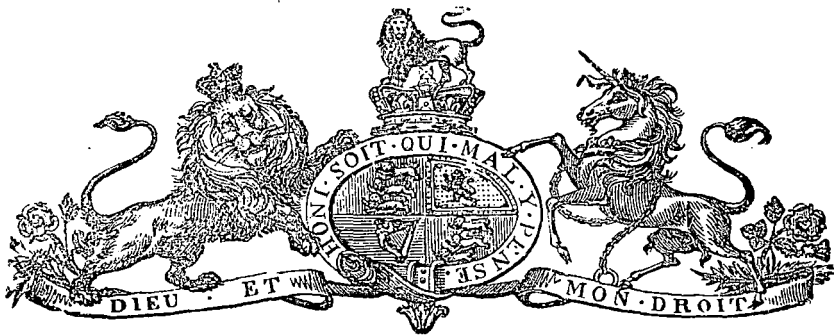
1870.

T A S M A N I A.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

PETITION AS TO QUEEN'S ASYLUM ACT.

Presented by Mr. Cook, September 20, 1870, and ordered by the House to be printed.



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

The humble Petition of the Undersigned.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners are Members of the Executive Committee of the Hobart Town Benevolent Society.

That in this capacity your Petitioners have had voluminous correspondence at various times with the Executive Government of Tasmania respecting the inadequate protection afforded to the Children of the Queen's Asylum when apprenticed, and when discharged to immoral parents and other improper persons.

That the great success attained by kindred institutions in the United Kingdom in preserving Children apprenticed from moral ruin, and from becoming habitual criminals or paupers, has been mainly owing to the watchful care exercised over them when serving their apprenticeship by the visits of official Inspectors armed with legal authority.

That in the Draft Bill for amending the existing Queen's Asylum Act, now before your Honorable House, no provision of this kind is introduced, and your Petitioners pray that a Clause for that purpose may be enacted.

That your Petitioners pray your Honorable House not to pass Clause 4 of the Amended Draft Bill, by which the office of Guardians would be so nullified that independent persons with proper self-respect could not retain or accept such a highly responsible but really powerless appointment; but that the authority of the Guardians may be improved by making the Principal of the Queen's Asylum Secretary only to the Board of Guardians, and by appointing as third Guardian in his place a person unconnected officially with the Institution or the Government.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

E. SWARBRECK HALL, *Chairman.*
T. J. CROUCH, *Hon. Sec.*
JNO. WITHRINGTON.
JAMES SMITH.
WILLIAM JOHNSTON.
R. ANDREW MATHER.