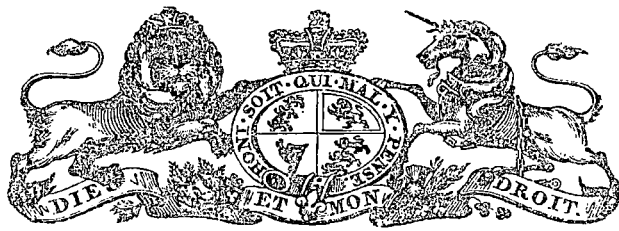


(No. 68.)



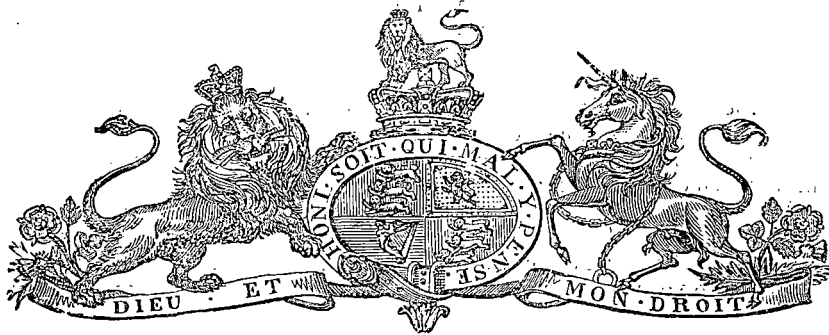
1860.

T A S M A N I A.

P E T I T I O N No. 22.

MR. A. H. SWIFT.

Presented by Mr. Adams, and ordered by the House to be printed, 24 August,
1860.



To the Honourable the House of Assembly of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of Algernon Horatio Swift, of Hobart Town, Civil Engineer.

SHOWETH :

THAT, about two years since, your Petitioner opened up a Quarry at the mouth of the Huon, and expended in the same upwards of One thousand five hundred Pounds.

That, at the same time, your Petitioner was aware of the existence of Stone at Point Ventenet, at Little Taylor's Bay, Bruny Island; but, from losses sustained by him in the said Quarry, your Petitioner was unable to take advantage of his knowledge of that fact.

That, in the commencement of June last, your Petitioner obtained from the Survey Office in Hobart Town a tracing of the Land at Taylor's Bay, for the purpose of making application for certain Land there to secure the Stone.

That, on the twenty-sixth of the same month of June, your Petitioner went to the Survey Office, and then saw the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, and told him that your Petitioner was desirous of opening a Stone Quarry at Taylor's Bay, and asked him what would be the necessary measures to adopt. He then suggested that your Petitioner should obtain a Licence to quarry from the Government at Two shillings and sixpence for each man per week. Your Petitioner objected to such a measure, as it would not prevent any other person opening a quarry adjoining.

That the Deputy Commissioner then suggested to your Petitioner to purchase the Land under the "Waste Lands Act;" your Petitioner thereupon asked him what would be necessary to enable your Petitioner to do so; the Deputy Commissioner then told your Petitioner to get one of the Clerks in the Survey Office to write an application, which would secure the land required. This was done. Your Petitioner then put in his application, and at the same time requested to be informed whether that was sufficient to secure the Land. Your Petitioner was informed that it was.

That, on the twenty-ninth June last, your Petitioner received a letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands applying for the Survey Fee of Eleven Pounds, and informing your Petitioner that it was the intention of the Government to grant a Licence of occupation for a portion of the Crown reservation of one hundred feet wide from high-water mark in front of the land applied for by your Petitioner.

That, on the said twenty-ninth June last, your Petitioner paid the Survey Fee mentioned in the said letter, and obtained a receipt for the same. Your Petitioner at this time personally objected to any condition being imposed on the Land applied for by your Petitioner, your Petitioner having then for the first time been informed that a Mr. Glaister, from Melbourne, had subsequently applied for a portion of the Land comprised in your Petitioner's application.

That your Petitioner at this time discovered that Mr. Glaister had had a personal interview with the Honourable the Premier and the Honourable the Colonial Treasurer, and had subsequently written to the Government for Licence to occupy some portion of the Government reserve fronting on the land applied for by your Petitioner for the purpose of quarrying stone, and urged that if the Government would immediately accede to his request, and allow his application to be received before your Petitioner's, or would grant him a Lease of the reservation for the purpose of quarrying stone, that he would at once introduce fifty men into the Colony to work at the quarry.

That your Petitioner, on the said twenty-ninth June last, instructed his Solicitors to write to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, in reply to his of the same date, requesting that the proposed Lease to Mr. Glaister of the one hundred feet reservation might not be carried out, to the manifest injustice of your Petitioner.

That, on the sixth August last, a reply was received by your Petitioner's Solicitors, stating that the letter of your Petitioner's Solicitors had been submitted for the consideration of the Government;

and that the reasons urged in their communication had not been deemed sufficient to induce a compliance with the request contained in the last paragraph; namely, that the proposed Lease to Mr. Glaister might not be carried out.

That your Petitioner is now desirous of bringing before the notice of this Honourable House the manifest injustice that would be done to your Petitioner by any such Lease or Licence as herein referred to being granted to Mr. Glaister, or any other person than your Petitioner; as the effect of so doing would be a breach of the contract entered into by your Petitioner under the "Waste Lands Act," and would render the purchase made by your Petitioner under that Act useless.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays your Honourable House to prevent the injustice above referred to being done to your Petitioner, and to take such other steps in the premises as to your Honourable House shall seem meet.

And your Petitioner will ever pray.

A. H. SWIFT.