(No. 43.)



1856.

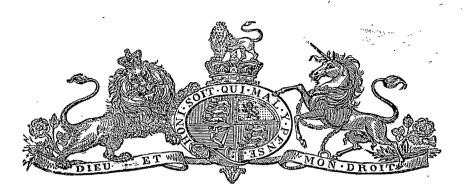
TASMANIA.

PETITION AGAINST ADDITIONAL TAXATION

FROM THE DISTRICT OF GLENORCHY.

Presented by Dr. Officer, and ordered by the House to be printed, 11 February, 1857.

(No. 43.)



To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the District of Glenorchy.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

First. That your Petitioners have viewed with alarm and regret the fact that the Expenditure of the Public money for the last year has so greatly exceeded the Revenue.

Second. That this excess of Expenditure above the Revenue, and the fearful balance now exhibited against it, is not to be attributed to the falling off of the Revenue, but to a reckless, and in many cases waste in expenditure on the part of Government, especially within the last two or three years.

Third. That, if due economy be observed in the expenditure of the Revenue as at present, and all unnecessary items avoided, your Petitioners feel assured that no additional Taxes are necessary to be imposed upon this small community of 65,000 souls.

Fourth. That your Petitioners believe that the amount of Taxation imposed in Tasmania is already equal to more than Five Pounds per head of the Inhabitants, which, on a comparison with the Inhabitants of Great Britain and Ireland, would give the latter an Expenditure of One hundred and fifty Millions, instead of which that Expenditure amounts to the rate of only about Two Pounds per head, out of which the Army and Navy are supported, and Twenty-eight Millions of Interest on the National Debt defrayed.

Fifth. That if the scale adopted in England in the payment of Public Servants, the Queen's Officers in the Army and Navy, and in rewarding them for their services, was made applicable here, the Revenue would not only have been most ample for the service of the Colony, but a large balance would have been in hand.

Sixth. That the Taxes intended to be imposed by the Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor, dated the 9th ultimo, upon a Resolution of your Honourable House, are not only injurious and oppressive upon the labouring classes, but more particularly so upon their employers in agriculture, upon whom the weight will necessarily fall.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honourable House will not proceed to any additional Taxation beyond what now exists, but that the Expenditure be reduced so as to bring it within the Revenue.

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

JOHN LEE LEWES, Chairman.

Geo. Hall. J. Curwen Walker. Edward Bowtle. John Brent. J. M'Grath. Richard Somers, his \times mark. Wm. Purdy. Wm. Holley, his × mark. J. P. Lester.

Thomas Reswood. John Norris, his \times mark. English Corney. Thomas Tilyard. Henry Schofield. James O'Brien. James Young.

Thinoty Colman. E. Durrant. G. Bird. John M'Carrick. Henry Carpenter. John Hallam. Joseph Hallam. Michel Connell.

(No. 43.)

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