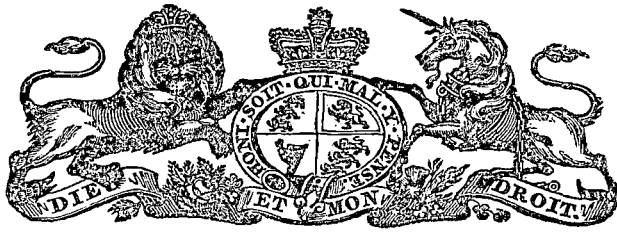


(No. 66.)



1866.

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T A S M A N I A .

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**INCOME AND PROPERTY TAX BILL.**

PETITION FROM RICHMOND AGAINST.

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Presented by Mr. Dobson, and ordered by the House to be printed, 29 August,  
1866.



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

The Petition of the undersigned Landholders and others, Inhabitants of the District of Richmond.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners view with the greatest alarm the measures now before your Honorable House for repealing certain Duties of Customs, and the substitution in lieu thereof of Duties on Profits arising from Property and Trades, &c.

That the proposal to abolish Customs' Duties to the extent of £61,000, and in lieu thereof to impose a tax of 5½ per cent. upon Property and Incomes of £80 per annum and upwards, is manifestly unjust and injurious.

That a very large portion of the public expenditure for Public Worship, Education, Hospitals, and other Charitable Institutions, together with the cost of Gaols, &c., and maintenance of Convicts, &c., amounting to nearly £100,000 per annum, is in no measure attributable to the owners of Real Property, or to those who possess Incomes of £80 per annum and upwards; whilst that portion of the community to whom such expenditure is attributable, and who are directly benefited by it, can only be effectually called upon to contribute in some measure to the same through the medium of Customs' Duties.

That a direct Tax on Property for the support of the General Revenue of the Colony would be most unjust and oppressive to the owners of Real Property, because they are already subject to Succession Duties, and also rated for Police and Roads.

That an Income Tax of any amount would be most inquisitorial and obnoxious in its character, and would most assuredly induce the withdrawal from the Colony both of persons and capital.

That the financial policy which the Ministry are now attempting to force upon the community is in direct opposition to the distinct pledges they made to the Parliament and the Country on their assumption of office, and clearly demonstrates that they are not entitled to the confidence of the country.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will withhold your assent to the Bill to abolish Customs' Duties, and also to the Bill for the imposition of Duties on Profits arising from Property and Trades, &c.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

On behalf of the Meeting,

D. OGILVY, *Chairman.*

*Richmond, 28th August, 1866.*