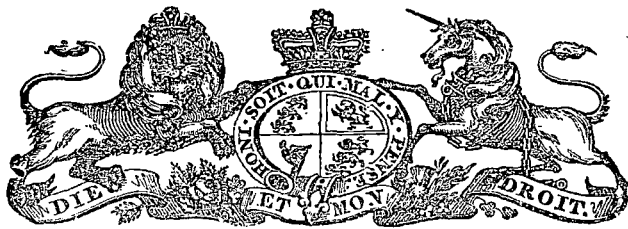


(No. 85.)



1869.

T A S M A N I A.

SCAB ACT.

PETITION FROM DORSET AGAINST.

Presented by Mr. J. R. Scott, September 16, 1869, and ordered by the House to
be printed.



To the Honorable the Speaker and the House of Assembly, &c.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Sheep-owners in the District of Dorset.

SHOWETH :

THAT they desire to draw the attention of your Honorable House to the hardships which would be inflicted upon them by the passing of the proposed Scab Act.

The country over which most of the Sheep belonging to your Petitioners run is so hilly, scrubby, and rocky as to render it impossible, in the case of some, to comply with the provisions of the proposed Act.

In the case of some of your Petitioners, they cannot at any one time collect the whole of their Sheep, the Government land which they rent being so poor that it requires many acres to keep one Sheep; and from its being so thickly covered with timber and scrub, any fences erected upon the land require to be replaced at least every three years, as it is impossible to protect them from bush fires. In the event of the passing of this Act, those of your Petitioners who rent Government land will be compelled to relinquish it.

Whilst depreciating the passing of an Act which—should it become law, however suitable for the owners of runs comparatively free from timber and scrub—would be the ruin of some in this District, your Petitioners are fully alive to the necessity of an Act for the prevention of Scab, and would suggest that one rendering it compulsory to dip Sheep twice in the season, at stated periods, and to prevent the driving of Sheep infected with Scab along public roads, or to sales, and also to render it a punishable offence the trespassing of Sheep so infected upon clean runs, would have a very great effect in checking the spread of Scab, and making it the interest of owners of Sheep to get them clean, as otherwise they could neither move nor dispose of them.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 22 Signatures.]