

(No. 78.)



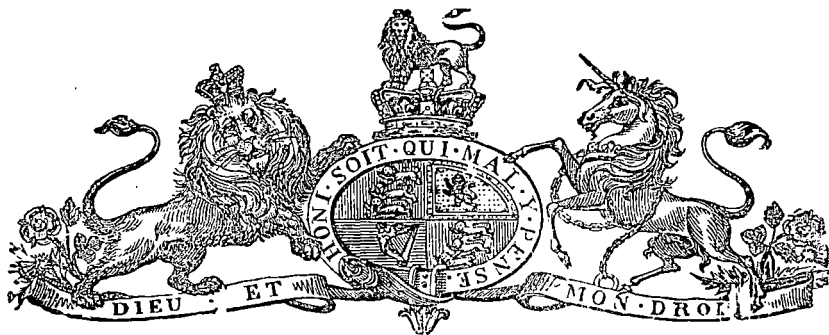
1870.

T A S M A N I A.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL.

PETITION AGAINST FROM BRANCH LODGE OF THE
MANCHESTER UNITY FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

Presented by Mr. Cook, and ordered by the House to be printed, September 13,
1870.



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

The humble Petition of the Trustees and Officers of the "Loyal Albemarle" Lodge, No. 4778, being a branch Lodge of the "Manchester Unity" Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in the Hobart Town District.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT the Bill at present under the consideration of your Honorable House and introduced by the Honorable Member for Devon, entitled "A Bill to amend 'The Friendly Societies Act,'" is most unsatisfactory, obnoxious, and prejudicial to the interests of its members.

That "The Friendly Societies Act" passed in 1856, and made permanent by 20th Victoria, No. 14, and under which the Loyal Albemarle Lodge was duly enrolled, has worked well under its provisions ; and from experience find that it is full and sufficient to meet the object and requirements of the Society, the security of its funds, and the general legislation and government of its members.

That the 8th Section of the Bill of Amendment now submitted for the consideration of your Honorable House by the Honorable Member for Devon is most seriously objectionable to the interests of our members, and would (were it to become law) not only open a doorway for endless and incessant litigation, discord, and discontent, but would most undoubtedly entail the most ruinous results, which would eventually terminate in the dissolution of an invaluable, well-conducted, loyal, and benevolent institution.

That "compulsory arbitration" in particular, as proposed by the Bill of Amendment referred to, is altogether as obnoxious and objectionable as it would be pernicious and ruinous in its effects ; and as the Act of 1856 provides for our own independent government, the making of our own laws, the settling of our own disputes, and the general management of the Society, we respectfully and most urgently entreat that the Bill of Amendment, as now submitted for the consideration of your Honorable House, and intended to overthrow and defeat the rights and privileges granted by the Act of 1856, may not be allowed to pass your Honorable House or become law.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that the Bill of Amendment as introduced by the Honorable Member for Devon, entitled "A Bill to amend 'The Friendly Societies Act,'" may be rejected by your Honorable House and not permitted to become the law of Tasmania.

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

JAMES ABBOTT, *N.G.*,
THOMAS WILLIAMSON, *V.G.*, } *Officers of the*
DAVID DRUMMOND, *G.M.*, } *Lodge.*

DAVID MACKENZIE, }
THOMAS DAVIS, } *Trustees.*
ALEXANDER ROSS, }

GEORGE JAMES TAYLOR, *Lodge Secretary.*