

(No. 50.)



1872.

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TASMANIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

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BYE-LAWS.

PETITION FROM CAMPBELL TOWN.

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Presented by Mr. Keach, July 9th, 1872, and ordered by the House to be printed.



*To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly of the  
Parliament of Tasmania.*

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Rural Municipality of Campbell Town.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT the Warden and Municipal Councillors for the said Rural Municipality did, on the 7th day of March last past, pass certain Bye-laws, numbered respectively 6, 8, and 9, Chap. 3, to the following effect and purport:—No. 6 provides that, under certain or almost every circumstance, the Superintendent of Police, or any Constable, can demand the aid and assistance of any male adult within call or visible, and enacting a penalty for non-compliance with such requisition of the sum of not less than Two Pounds.

Your Petitioners respectfully demur to the performance of any such obnoxious duty. If the Police Force in their Municipality are not sufficiently numerous, or from other causes inefficient, they would sooner submit to extra taxation to remedy such evil than be made liable at any moment, at any time, or on any day, to be compelled under a pecuniary penalty to discharge duties to which they are quite disinclined, and for the due performance of which they pay, and are willing to pay, persons supposed to be more properly suited.

Nos. 8 and 9 are, in the opinion of your Petitioners, unnecessary, and likely to prove unjust, vexatious, and oppressive in the carrying of them out. Township lands are not defined in those Bye-laws; they may, therefore, be held to include private properties unfenced, of which large quantities are to be found in this Municipality within Town boundaries. The penalties also which are provided as of contingent infliction are excessive, as for instance,—a herd of travelling cattle, or a flock of sheep temporarily straying from their regular pastures, under the provisions of those Bye-laws the cumulative penalty incurable would be most oppressive.

For those reasons your Petitioners protest against the entrusting such dangerous powers even in the hands of their own elected "Municipal Council." The proposed licence fee of Three-pence will, if allowed, cause infinite annoyance to your Petitioners, and be, if collected, worthless to the funds of the Municipality in amount.

We therefore with profound respect beg that your Honorable House will, for the above-mentioned reasons, be pleased to disallow the said Bye-laws thus mentioned; and your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

*[Here follow 85 Signatures.]*