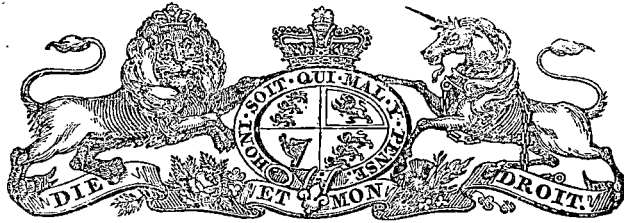


(No. 20.)



1857.

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T A S M A N I A.

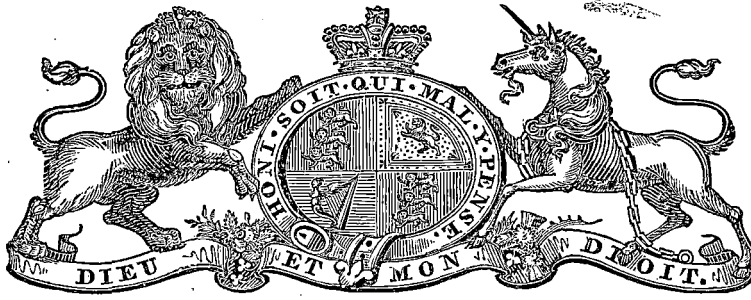
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P E T I T I O N

FROM DELORAINE, AGAINST THE NEW MASTERS AND  
SERVANTS BILL.

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Presented by Mr. Nairn, and ordered by the Council to be printed, 9 December,  
1857.



*To the Honourable the Legislative Council of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.*

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Deloraine and its vicinity.

HUMBLY SHOWETH:

THAT your Petitioners have learnt with regret that a Bill has been brought forward by the Government for the virtual repeal of the Act known as the Master and Servants Act, 1856.

That while your Petitioners are desirous that all proper protection should be given to the Servant both as respects remuneration for his services, and his treatment morally and socially, they cannot but regard with extreme alarm the new Master and Servant Act now before the House of Assembly, inasmuch, as affording full remedy by the Servant as against the Master, it practically leaves the Master without any redress.

That no protection is afforded to the Master against the Servant guilty of drunkenness other disorderly conduct while on the premises of their employer.

That when a fine is inflicted for misconduct, and there not being any wages due to the Servant, no punishment is provided in lieu thereof.

That, in case of wilful damage to the Master's property by the Servant, the Master is without redress.

That the 22nd Clause of the Bill is totally inapplicable to the condition of the Colony, inasmuch as the Farm Labourers of the Colony are a migratory class attached to no locality; and many, therefore, evade its provisions by removing to some distance from where a fine is imposed, thus rendering the punishment of offences nominal, leaving the Master with only a shadow of redress.

That your Petitioners regard the withdrawal of the liability to imprisonment as impolitic in the extreme, not only in rendering the infliction of a penalty in too many instances useless, but also in removing the only punishment of which a fear is entertained by the more hardened and vicious part of the community.

That your Petitioners are of opinion that, inasmuch as no opportunity of Appeal is afforded to either of the parties under the proposed Act, it would be injudicious to entrust to any one Justice of the Peace the power of adjudicating under its provisions.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honourable House not to allow the proposed new Master and Servants Act to become the Law of this Colony.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Arthur Wigan  
H. Bentinck  
J. R. Maher  
H. S. Hutchinson  
D. Rock, J.P.  
Alex. Robertson  
William Shephard  
Stephen Stacey  
Charles Goodwin  
Joseph Tibbles

Martin Blake  
Samuel Henry  
Henry Tidey  
Frederick Pointon  
Nathaniel Poole  
Wm. Betts  
John Thomas  
Brvan Coan  
William Stamford  
Patrick Cusic

John Field  
Thomas Bramich  
Arthur Bramich  
John Sims  
Samuel Sharey  
Charles Hortle  
James Powlett  
Henry Kimberley  
David Griffin  
Patrick Keane

Edward Moss  
John Dell  
John Nunn  
James Duggan  
Thomas Granger  
Elizabeth Trebilcock  
Jeremiah Collins  
James Broomall  
Wm. Blair  
H. M. Rostie  
John Addison  
John Turner  
William Pearce  
Daniel Picket  
James Phillips  
George Cope  
John Cubit  
Thos. S. Shackell  
Owen Lynch  
James Welsh  
John Welsh  
Patrick Davit  
Daniel O'Dea  
Joseph Shephard  
James M'Loughlan

Robert Stephens  
Peter Tidey  
R. H. Munce  
John McCulloch  
George Dryden  
W. B. Kingswell  
John Spicer  
James Rockley  
Wm. Wright  
George Buttler  
George Jarman, his × mark.  
Witness—W. B. Kings-  
well  
Robert Pearse  
James Bonney  
John Bramich  
Patrick Gannon  
Thomas Twining  
Michael Shearer  
Thomas Addison  
Wm. Hughes  
Margarette Field  
A. Fowler  
Joseph Bramich  
John Smith

Charles Luckhurst  
Henry Edgecumbe  
H. S. J. Edgecumbe  
F. J. Edgecumbe  
Henry F. Wills  
Samuel Davis  
Solomon Hym  
Thomas Tye  
Richard Clayton  
Francis Reynolds  
James D. Johnston  
John Tipper  
Michael Ryan  
James Jennings  
John Bonney, his × mark.  
Witness—S. Henry.  
J. P. Horne  
P. G. Horne  
Martin Mulroy  
James Smith  
Henry Wells, his × mark.  
Witness—F. R. Bonner  
John Middleton, his × mark.  
Witness—F. R. Bonner