

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty,
GEORGE V.,

BY THE GRACE OF GOD OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, AND OF THE BRITISH DOMINIONS BEYOND THE SEAS, KING, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, EMPEROR OF INDIA.

The Humble Petition of the UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA sheweth unto Your Most Gracious Majesty, as follows:—

I. **That** by an Act of the Parliament of the State (then the Colony) of Tasmania passed in the twenty-second year of the reign of Her late Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and numbered 21, intituled "An Act to establish a Council of Education with power to grant a certain degree, and to endow scholarships tenable in the United Kingdom by the youth of Tasmania," to which Her late Majesty's Royal Assent was granted on the fifth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, a Council of fifteen members was constituted, when nominated and appointed as in the said Act provided, to be a body corporate and politic by the name of "The Tasmanian Council of Education," and by that name to have perpetual succession and all the legal incidents of a corporation.

II. **That** the Tasmanian Council of Education was constituted as provided by the Act referred to in Paragraph I. hereof, and duly exercised its functions until the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety.

III. **That** by an Act of the Parliament of the State (then the Colony) of Tasmania passed in the fifty-third year of the reign of Her late Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and numbered 41, intituled "An Act to establish a University in Tasmania," to which Her said late Majesty's Royal Assent was granted on the fifth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, a University which was to consist of a Council only until the Senate should be constituted, and thereafter to consist of a Council and Senate, was established at Hobart and made a body politic and corporate, with perpetual succession, by the name of The University of Tasmania.

IV. **That** by the said lastmentioned Act it was provided that the Council of the University should consist of eighteen members, nine of whom should be elected by the Senate and eight of whom should be elected by the Members of both Houses of Parliament in such manner as might be provided by Regulations to be made by the Governor in Council; that the Minister of Education should be *ex officio* a member of the Council; and that the Tasmanian Council of Education, together with three other persons to be appointed by the Governor in Council, should in the first instance act as and be the Council of the University until the constitution of the Senate, when the Council should be elected in the manner hereinbefore set forth.

V. **That** by the said Act it was provided that the Senate should consist of all male graduates of the University of the Degree of Master or Doctor, and of all other male graduates of the University of three years' standing; of all male graduates of any other University of three years' standing admitted to Degrees in the University of Tasmania; of the Members of the Council; and of such Associates of Arts of Tasmania, and Associates of Institutions duly authorised to grant Degrees and Certificates, as should be admitted to membership of the Senate under Regulations made in that behalf by the Council of the University and approved by the Governor in Council, and that the Senate should be constituted when and as soon as the number of enrolled members thereof and of the Council together should amount to fifty; and that the Council should make a Report thereof to the Governor, and should thereafter publish the said Report in "The Hobart Gazette." AND it was further provided that a graduate of another University should reckon his standing from the date of his graduation in such other University.

VI. **That** by the said Act the Council was empowered after examination to confer on persons of either sex the several Degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Doctor of Science, Bachelor of Laws, Doctor of Laws, Bachelor of Medicine, Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Music, and Doctor of Music; and such Degrees and Certificates in the nature of Degrees as it should think fit in all branches of knowledge, except Theology or Divinity, and at their discretion to confer without examination any such Degree upon any person who should have obtained a corresponding or equivalent Degree at any other University or Institution duly authorized to grant Degrees and Certificates.

VII. **That** by the said Act the Council was further empowered, so soon as the Council should have acquired a sufficient endowment or income for any such purpose, to appoint Professors and Lecturers as it might think fit, and to establish Scholarships, Exhibitions, Prizes, and a Library.

VIII. **That** by the said Act it was also provided that the Governor for the time being should be Visitor of the said University, with power to do all those things which pertain to the office of Visitor.

IX. **That** by the said Act the Council was empowered to make Statutes and Regulations touching all matters that might affect the University, and might from time to time alter and rescind any of such Statutes and Regulations; and it was provided that so soon as the Senate thereof should have been constituted no new Statutes or Regulations or alteration or repeal of any existing Statute or Regulation should be of any force until approved by the Senate; and it was further provided that all such Statutes and Regulations should be reduced into writing, and the Common Seal of the University having been affixed thereto should be submitted to the Governor in Council to be allowed and countersigned by him, and if so allowed and countersigned should be valid for all purposes.

X. **That** by the said Act it was provided that there should be paid to the Council of the University by the Treasurer of the Colony, out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, in each of the years *one thousand eight hundred and ninety and one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one the sum of Three thousand Pounds, and in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two and every subsequent year the sum of Four thousand Pounds*, and the Governor was thereby empowered and required from time to time by Warrant under his hand to direct the said sum to be paid.

XI. **That** by the said Act it was provided that the Council should in the month of January in every year report the proceedings of the University during the previous year to the Governor in Council, with a full account of the income and expenditure of the University, and that a copy of every such Report and of all the Statutes and Regulations of the University allowed as aforesaid by the Governor in Council should be laid in each year before the Parliament.

XII. **That** the Council at its first meeting elected one of its own members, viz., the Honourable Sir William Lambert Dobson, K.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Tasmania, to be Chancellor, and the Reverend George Clarke, another of its own members, to be Vice-Chancellor thereof.

XIII. **That** the said Honourable Sir William Lambert Dobson having died in the month of March, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, the said Reverend George Clarke was elected as Chancellor of the University, and continued to be Chancellor until his resignation in the month of May, one thousand nine hundred and seven, when the Honourable Sir John Stokell Dodds, K.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Tasmania and Lieutenant-Governor, a member of the Council of the University, was elected by the Council to be, and still is, Chancellor of the University.

XIV. **That** on the election of the Reverend George Clarke to the Chancellorship, James Backhouse Walker, Esq., a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and of the Royal Society of Tasmania, a member of the Council of the University, was elected as Vice-Chancellor, and continued to be Vice-Chancellor until his death in the month of November, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine, whereupon Thomas Stephens, Esq., a Master of Arts of the University of Oxford, and some time Director of Education of the State of Tasmania, another member of the Council, was elected to be Vice-Chancellor. The said Thomas Stephens resigned the office in the month of May, one thousand nine hundred and one, and thereupon the Honourable Andrew Inglis Clark, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Tasmania, also a member of the Council, was elected as Vice-Chancellor, and continued to be Vice-Chancellor until his resignation in the month of July, one thousand nine hundred and three, and thereupon the Honourable Sir Neil Elliott Lewis, K.C.M.G., a Master of Arts and Bachelor of Civil Law of the University of Oxford, a member of the Council, was elected to be Vice-Chancellor, and so continued until his resignation in the month of July, one thousand nine hundred and nine, when the Honourable Tetley Gant, the President of the Legislative Council of the State of Tasmania, and a Master of Arts of the University of Oxford, was elected to be, and still is, Vice-Chancellor of the University.

XV. **That** the Council in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six appointed three learned Professors, viz., William Henry Williams, Esq., Master of Arts of the University of Cambridge, Professor of Classics and English Literature; Alexander McAulay, Esq., Bachelor of Arts of the University of Cambridge, and Master of Arts of the University of Melbourne, Professor of Mathematics and Physics (who still hold their respective Professorships); and William Jethro Brown, Esq., Master of Arts of the University of Cambridge, and Doctor of Laws of the University of Dublin, Professor of Law and Modern History. On the resignation by Dr. Brown of his Professorship in the year one thousand nine hundred the Council appointed Dugald Gordon McDougall, Esq., a Master of Arts and Bachelor of Civil Law of the University of Oxford, and a Master of Arts and Doctor of Laws of the University of Melbourne, as Professor of Law and Modern History; and in the year one thousand nine hundred and twelve appointed John Hilton Mackay, Esq., a Master of Civil Engineering of the University of Melbourne, as Professor of Engineering. In the year one thousand nine hundred and ten the Trustees of the Will of John Ralston, Esq., deceased, placed the sum of Six hundred Pounds a year at the disposal of the University for the period of ten years for the purpose of founding a Professorship of Biology, and in the month of January, one thousand nine hun-

dred and eleven, Theodore Thomson Flynn, Esq., a Bachelor of Science of the University of Sydney, was appointed as Professor of Biology on the Ralston foundation. The three lastnamed gentlemen still hold their Professorships. In addition to the Professorships there are Lectureships in Modern Languages, Chemistry and Geology, Classics, Physics, Mental and Moral Science, and Law.

XVI. **That** That the annual income of the University from the State has been raised to the sum of Five thousand five hundred Pounds, and from all other sources is One thousand five hundred Pounds.

XVII. **That** by an Act of the Parliament of Tasmania passed in the fifty-sixth year of the reign of Her said late Majesty Queen Victoria, and numbered 26, intituled "An Act to vest in the University of Tasmania the Property known as the High School of Hobart," to which Her said Majesty's assent was given on the twenty-first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two, reciting that a company or Association had been formed at Hobart in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight for the purpose of establishing an institution having for its immediate object the instruction of youth in the higher branches of learning, as taught in superior English classical and mathematical schools, but having for its ultimate object the extension of its organization and its aims concurrently with the growing wants of the community of Van Diemen's Land (now called Tasmania), and more particularly to obtain for it the privileges of a chartered corporation to confer on Australian youth the inestimable advantages of a European University, and that Her late Majesty by Letters Patent had granted four acres two roods and twenty-five perches of land in the schedule to the said Act particularly described to Thomas Daniel Chapman and others, who, by Deed Poll dated the eighteenth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, under their respective hands and seals, declared that they stood seised thereof upon trust for the said Institution, and if it should be dissolved, then upon trust for the purposes for which the said Institution had been established, and that the said Association had erected buildings on the said land and for many years carried on a school under the name of "The High School of Hobart," but that such school had been for some time closed and the Association dissolved by effluxion of time, and the several grantees long since dead, it was enacted that the said lands should be thereby vested in the University of Tasmania, to be held and used for the purposes of the said University.

XVIII. **That** the buildings on the said land were repaired and alterations made thereto, and other buildings erected from time to time by the University, all which buildings are used exclusively for the purposes of the University, and are of the value, together with the said land, of Eighteen thousand nine hundred Pounds.

XIX. **That** the Council of the University have made, and the Governors of the State have from time to time allowed and countersigned, divers Statutes and Regulations for various purposes, and (amongst others) for the government and discipline of the said University, and prescribed the course of education to be pursued therein and with respect to the admission to Degrees therein, and in particular to the admission without examination to such Degrees of graduates of other Universities recognised by this University.

XX. **That** in the months of June and July, one thousand eight hundred and ninety, forty-three persons duly qualified therefor in accordance with the provisions of "The University Act," set out in the fifth paragraph hereof, were admitted by the Council to membership of the Senate, and their names having been duly enrolled the Council forthwith made to the Governor the report prescribed by the said Act, referred to in Paragraph 5 hereof, and the said report having been published in "The Hobart Gazette" on the twenty-second day of July, one thousand eight hundred and ninety, the Senate thereupon became constituted.

XXI. **That** the standard of requirements which must be attained by Graduates in the University of Tasmania is not below that prescribed by the most learned Universities of the United Kingdom, and that the Statutes under which that high standard of attainment has been fixed cannot be altered without the consent of Your Majesty's Representative in the State, who is also, as hereinbefore stated, appointed by "The University Act" the Visitor of the University, with authority to do all things which appertain to Visitors as often as to him shall seem meet, and such standard has been approved by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, who have granted such and the same recognition to Graduates of the University of Tasmania as to those of the other Australian Universities.

XXII. **That** it is desirable to have the Degrees conferred by the University of Tasmania generally recognised throughout Your Majesty's Dominions, and Your Majesty's Petitioners humbly submit to Your Majesty that through Her late Majesty Queen Victoria's Royal Assent to the said Act incorporated the said University and conferred upon it the power of granting Degrees, yet the Degrees so granted by the University under the authority of the said Act are not legally entitled to recognition beyond the boundaries of the State of Tasmania.

XXIII. **That** Your Majesty's Petitioners are in consequence most desirous to obtain from Your Majesty a Grant of Letters Patent requiring all Your Majesty's subjects to recognize the Degrees given and which may be given under the said Act, in the same manner and as fully as if the said Degrees had been granted by any University of the United Kingdom.

Your Majesty's petitioners therefore most humbly pray—

1. **That** Your Majesty will be pleased to take the premises into Your Majesty's Gracious consideration, and grant unto The University of Tasmania Your Majesty's Royal Letters Patent granting and declaring that the Degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, Doctor of Science, Bachelor of Mining Engineering, Bachelor of Laws, Master of Laws, Doctor of Laws, already granted or conferred, or hereafter to be granted or conferred, by the University of Tasmania shall be recognised as Academic Distinctions and Rewards of Merit, and be entitled to rank, precedence, and consideration in Your Majesty's United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Your Majesty's Empire of India, and Colonies, Dominions, and Possessions throughout the World as fully as if the said Degrees had been granted by any University in Your Majesty's said United Kingdom.

And Your Majesty's Petitioners will ever most humbly pray, &c., &c., &c.

(Signed)

J. S. DODDS,
Chancellor of The University of Tasmania.

(Signed)

TETLEY GANT, M.A. Oxon,
Vice-Chancellor of The University of Tasmania.

The foregoing Petition was adopted by the Council of the University of Tasmania at a meeting of the said Council on the seventeenth day of March, in the year one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, and at the said meeting the Common Seal of the said University was, in the presence and by the direction of the said Council, affixed to the foregoing Petition by James Henry Robert Cruickshank, the Registrar of the said University.

(Signed)

JAMES H. R. CRUICKSHANK,
Registrar.

Reduction of Common Seal of the
University of Tasmania,



affixed to the original of the petition.