PETITION.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

Your Petitioners, Citizens and Electors in the United States, and residing in the State of New York, would present to your honorable bodies the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as of the greatest detriment to the community; drawing from great numbers their means of supporting their families and supporting the State, while it gives them that in return which causes two-thirds of the pauperism, vice and crime in the community, weakens armies, and saps the foundations of the State; and while it is thus, the individuals in the business are enriching themselves beyond all others in matters of trade. Your Petitioners therefore believe, that in justice and for the benefit of the country, these should be made to bear more heavily than others the burdens of war; and your Petitioners pray, that if an increased revenue is demanded, it may be drawn from this traffic; that a much heavier tax may be laid upon it than has hitherto been, so that it may in some degree compensate for the immense evils it occasions. And your Petitioners will ever pray.

February 2, 1863.

[Signatures follow]
PETITION

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

Your Petitioners, citizens and inhabitants of the United States and residents in the State of [State Name], humbly representing to your Honorable Fathers the circumstances and state of their community, and that the laws of the State, which are now in force, are insufficient to prevent the un producción of [crop or commodity] and that the same is urgently needed by the inhabitants of the community, for the purpose of their subsistence, and that the same is urgently needed by the inhabitants of the community, for the purpose of their subsistence, and that the same is urgently needed by the inhabitants of the community, for the purpose of their subsistence, and that the same is urgently needed by the inhabitants of the community, for the purpose of their subsistence.

Petitioners therefore pray that a law may be passed by the Congress of the United States, providing for the cultivation, manufacture, and sale of [crop or commodity], and that the necessary laws and regulations may be passed and enforced to prevent the un producción of the same, and that the necessary laws and regulations may be passed and enforced to prevent the un producción of the same, and that the necessary laws and regulations may be passed and enforced to prevent the un producción of the same, and that the necessary laws and regulations may be passed and enforced to prevent the un producción of the same.

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The petition of the undersigned, citizens of the State of Rhode Island, respectfully submits: That among other proper subjects of taxation to aid in enabling the Government to sustain the expenses of its internal concerns, they recommend that dogs be included, as not only conducive to revenue, but essentially protective of the great national interest by keeping the raising, and that a tax be levied on them at such annual rate as to your Honorable Body may be deemed wise and proper, to declare ends so important and so indispensable.

And as in duty bound will ever remain,
March 1, 1812.

[Signatures]

John W. A. Green Francis C. Greene
Henry D. Pratt Daniel Warner
Mrs. Read

Cyprus Harris

[Further signatures]

[Handwritten notes and signatures]
Petition for taxation of Dogs from Rhode Island.

37 Cong 2. Sess. Petition of citizens of Rhode Island praying that a tax be levied on Dogs.

1862 April 14th Referred to the Com on Finance.
1862 July 7th Com Discharged.

Anthony
Finame

69 Mr Anthony
To the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled.

This memorial of the undersigned, citizens of Ritchie County, Ohio, planters, dealers and laborers, respectfully represents—That they have learned with dismay that your honorable body proposes laying a tax of three cents per pound upon Leaf Tobacco. A tax on Tobacco in the Leaf would operate to the utter destruction of many of us—preventing its culture entirely, and would cause bankruptcy to many, both planters and dealers.

We are true and loyal citizens, and do not complain of taxes on any article that will bear it; and we are willing to meet, to the extent of our ability, the proposed taxes on other articles and property. A tax on Leaf Tobacco would not only produce no revenue—by stopping its culture—but would largely detract from our ability to pay taxation on other property. We pray you, therefore, not to impose a tax on Leaf Tobacco designed for exportation.

[Signature block]

James Whaley
Joseph Huyck
James Staley
W. D. Martin
E. R. Taylor
Elias Butcher
Theodore Butcher
J. W. Rice
O. B. Martin
Daniel Coal
J. W. Cornwell
J. P. A. Cooper
Franklin A. Rice
James A. Rice
L. S. Akin
C. D. Akin
J. W. Akin
H. Akin
E. Akin
A. J. Akin

[Signature block]
Petition of Citizens of Virginia
remonstrating against
the proposed tax of
three cents per pound
upon leaf of tobacco.

1862. April 7. Referred to
the Committee on Finance.
To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives:

We, your Memorialists, Manufacturers and Wholesale Dealers in Confectionary, in the City of Detroit, Michigan, would most respectfully remonstrate against the passage of the clause in the Tax Bill, as published, laying a Tax of two cents per lb. on all Confectionary manufactured.

While we are willing and ready to do our whole duty to our beloved country, and furnish our full share of the means to put down this unholy and causeless rebellion, we believe the Tax above mentioned will be much more than our proportionate share, and bear on us heavily, and be in effect disastrous to our business.

We would respectfully request, instead of the Tax proposed, that we be taxed a specific sum on our gross sales, say $50 for every $50,000 of sales; or such other amount, more or less, as you in your wisdom may devise.

Sincerely believing that the Tax as proposed in the Tax Bill will require of us much more than our share of the burden to be borne by our people, and knowing it will most seriously affect our business interests, we most earnestly entreat your Honorable Body to grant the request of your Memorialists.

Wm. Phelps & Co.

G. & H. Stiles

Anthony German

E. Winemiller

P. Heidenbach

A. Whitney

C. M. Smith

R. Phelps

G. W. & Barcroft

P. F. French
To the Honorable the Senate of the State of Ohio and the House of Representatives, in Congress assembled:

We, your petitioners, DRUGGISTS, AND MANUFACTURERS AND VENDORS OF PROPRIETARY MEDI-CINES, ex the City or Cincinnati, State of Ohio, most respectfully desire to call the attention of your Honorable Body to the Tax Bill now pending before you, as published in the papers of the day, in so far as it affects us and our avocations. We can not believe it is the intention of your Honorable Body to tax any legitimate business of the country so heavily as to prostrate and destroy it; but that the provisions of the same which we have this effect upon many of us we can not for a moment doubt, and that each of us would be unduly and seriously affected by it we think can be made perfectly clear.

We claim to be as loyal and patriot as the average of the American public, and we have no disposition to evade the payment of its just share of the necessary expenses incurred by our Government in carrying on this internal rebellion; but we are an urgently objecting and protest against having our wares and manufactures taxed ten times as heavily as the other manufactures of the country. We are perfectly willing to observe it to purchase the necessities of the nation, but we hope not to be crushed in the endeavor.

We observe it is proposed to place a stamp tax of three cents on every vial, box, or bottle of medicine which retails at twenty-five cents or over, and upon every dollar article, ten cents—and so on, in proportion, for higher priced preparations. We wish to reserve here that, we, the manufacturers of medicines, very rarely sell our preparations at the retail prices. We sell principally by the Gross to other dealers, and at about the following prices:

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<th>On Articles worth per Gross $2.50 to $3.75 per Cent.</th>
<th>On Articles worth per Gross $3.00 to $4.00 per Cent.</th>
<th>On Articles worth per Gross $4.00 to $4.16 per Cent.</th>
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Making an average of over sixty per cent, upon the whole; or, upon the preparations which retail at twenty-five cents and over, about thirty per cent. It must be admitted, on all hands, that such a tax would be ruinous to us, and that, as it is proposed to tax other manufacturers about three per cent, the discrimination against us would be excessive. It would undoubtedly defeat the very object your Honorable Body has in view—viz., the raising of revenue—and compel people to seek their remonstrance to the Government than it would be able to afford to Government thirty per cent upon the prices of our goods, and wait from one to three years before we get our pay, as we often have to do when medicines are placed upon commission—which, by the by, is the way in which many of us find market for our goods.

The proposed tax of three per cent, upon other manufacturers will affect them comparatively but little; they can easily add it to the selling price, and it ultimately is paid by the consumer. It is not so with our articles—the retail price can not in many instances be raised, and the proposed thirty per cent. tax would come wholly upon us, the manufacturers and dealers, and we submit it to you that it would be quite ruinous to our business.

We are aware it is supposed by many that the preparation and selling of medicines are very profitable—that we are making money rapidly, and can therefore meet a heavy tax. No opinion could be more erroneous; the business is not more remunerative than the manufacture of other articles, and not so laborious. Indeed, of all the manufactures in the country, I can not say that the business is more successful. Hundreds of cases could be cited, if necessary, where other manufacturers have realized larger fortunes than have ever been made on medicines. To say the truth, our business has its full share of risks, uncertainties, perplexities, and losses, without adding a tax of thirty per cent. altogether.

We can not believe that your Honorable Body is influenced by the opinion indulged in by some, that proprietary medicines are impositions upon the public, and ought therefore to be discontinued and crushed. We claim that our business is perfectly legitimate—that (though some medicines men, like other manufacturers, in some instances, may have been actuated by motives other than our own) our preparations are not more injurious in any case than medicines known—that they are prepared from safe ingredients, selected almost entirely from the vegetable kingdom and from approved formulas of skilful physicians—that they are economical and convenient—that they are sought after by millions of the American people, and by them are deemed essential and valuable. We presume it is not your purpose to discriminate against the business of any particular practice or theory of medicine, but to impose a universal tax of thirty per cent. which they prefer.

We would suggest to your Honorable Body that the proposed tax upon many of the articles which we use largely in our business, will affect us no little. Among the articles may be named alcohol, which is used extensively as a solvent for various medicines (upon which the tax amounts to about eight per cent. upon the selling price), oils, oils, and—alum, in and in a bar of soap. Compelling us to affix a stamp to every article we prepare, though they were furnished at a nominal price, or for nothing, would, say, and probably to many (and would it not be more than many (and if the sum of ten cents to each dollar of the medicines which we place on commission through the country are never sold—many may be destroyed; and it must be, if we have to affix a stamp to these, our loss must be very considerable. The medicines prepared by us are used mainly by those in medium and low circumstances; and, to say the least, these are not the parties to which it is necessary, for, by it, to pay the tax; therefore, in very considerable.

We pray your Honorable Body that the Stamp Tax be not applied to medicines at all; but, that, in adjusting and affixing the Tax Bill now before you, you will place us upon the same basis you do the other manufacturers of the country. We ask for no special legislation in our favor, but earnestly request that you will not discriminate against us and place upon us heavier burdens than we are able to bear.

Equal rights and uniform taxation we claim as American citizens, and hold the same should be extended to all. We are not unfair to the difficulties you labor under—of the arduous duties you have to perform—of the almost numberless interests you have to consult in levying the proper amount of taxation on the various lines of taxation that are all, and the whole of us and still being contracted. We would not unnecessarily obtrude ourselves upon your attention; but while the claims and rights of other manufacturers are canvassed, we pray you ours may not be ignored, and that we may be treated in the same spirit of fairness accorded to others.

We are, very respectfully, your pray'rful petitioners,

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]
Petition of Drugists, Manufacturers, and Vendors of Proprietary Medicines in the City of Cincinnati, Ohio, praying that the stamp tax be not applied to medicines at all, and they be placed upon the same basis as other manufacturers of drugs.
To the Honorable Congress of the United States now in Session in the City of Washington in the District of Columbia

We beg leave respectfully to represent that we are carrying on the business of Merchants at the City of Hartford in the State of Connecticut, and that we are natives of said State — that our Grandfather fought and suffered much in the War of the Revolution which was professedly waged against the principle of "Taxation without Representation" that we have come mingled in our being the blood of the Negro, Anglo Saxon, and the Indian — that by the Constitution of Connecticut because of our Negro blood and for no other reason we are deprived of the right of Suffrage and of the privilege of taking any part whatever in matters of Government, both State and National — that by Statute of said State as a sort of compensation for disfranchisement (and a very poor compensation it is) we are exempted or imposed upon by the act of last Congress.
entitled an act to provide internal revenue to support the Government and to pay interest on the public debt—
that besides procuring a manufactory license we are required to pay from
our little business about the hundred dollar a month for the support of
the Government; we have no voice in
administering and for the payment of
a public debt which we had no
agency in contracting.

The undersigned pray
your Honorable body in some way
to correct this manifest error—and
as we are losing the privilege of
taking the oath of allegiance to either
the state in which we are domiciled,
or to the United States, we claim
exemption from the burden of taxation
which Connecticut so consistently re-
ognizes as a principle the aspiring to
us—and as it duty toward we
shall ever pray

[Signature]

Dated at Hartford this 1st day of
[Signature]

[Signature]

Petition of T.P. and F.H.B. Saunders, colored persons and merchant tailors of Hartford, Connecticut, praying exemption from
the burden of taxation; January 1862; petitions related to taxes that were referred to the Committee on Finance (SGN 37A-HS.13);
37th Congress, Records of the U.S. Senate, Record Group 46; National Archives Building, Washington, DC.
The undersigned citizens of the city of Hartford and State of Connecticut, having examined the Memorial of T.P. H. Saunders, are convinced the claims therein set forth merit the favorable action of your Honorable body.

Wm. Eaton
F. L. Burr

Wm. W. Readworth
Francis Gillett
John Mootner
Albert Day
Thomas M. Mine
Hollersworth
Wm. M. Day
Petition of J. P. and P. H. Saunders, colored persons and merchant sailors of Hartford, Connecticut, praying exemption from the burden of taxation. January 1863: petitions related to taxes that were referred to the Committee on Finance (SCH 37A-145). 37th Congress, Records of the U.S. Senate, Record Group 48, National Archives Building, Washington, D.C.
RESOLUTION

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF MAINE,

IN FAVOR OF

Taxation for the support of the government of articles in the hands of vendors and manufacturers and not in the hands of consumers.

MARCH 28, 1862.—Referred to the Committee on Finance, and ordered to be printed.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVES relating to the collection of internal revenue.

Resolved, That so much of the revenue necessary for the support of the government of the United States as is to be derived from internal duties and taxation should be levied on articles of commerce while in the hands of the vendors or manufacturers, and that the rule that no duty or tax should be assessed or collected on any article in the hands of the consumer should be rigidly observed. That in the judgment of the legislature a system of duties and taxes might be adjusted on the foregoing basis so as to produce the amount of revenue required from this source without being felt as burdensome by the people, and at comparatively moderate rates of expense for the collection, while a system which should provide for a less considerable taxation on articles in possession of the manufacturer, producer, or vendor would, by rendering necessary the taxation of numerous articles in common use and a duty on stamps, be felt as grievously onerous to the tax-payer, would swell to an enormous extent the cost of collecting the revenue, cause the country to be overrun with tax-gatherers, and would be odious to the people.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolve be forwarded to our senators and representatives in Congress, and that they be requested to use their influence to procure such amendments to the bill pending in Congress as will make it conformable to the ideas therein expressed.
Resolution of the Legislature of Maine in favor of taxation for the support of the Government of articles in the hands of vendors and manufacturers and not in the hands of consumers.

1862 March 28 Referred to the Com on Finance and ordered to be printed.

1863 March 3, Com. Discharged