

84) The former Assembly to pass the said Act were partial Exam-
inations of Witnesses by an Officer who had certified
under his hand in the name of his Office which was
Judicial that the said Will was proved in Common
form before him whereas in truth the very paper
Pretended to be the Designed will of the said John
Contee being produced to this present General Assem-
-bly appears to have been neither signed nor sealed
By the pretended Testator and consequently could
not be proved in Common form without Evident perjury
By which and other means too shocking to be
Transmitted to posterity but not too shocking to
be then made use of by the Interest and Influence
Of particular persons in power by whose Interest
and Influence the said Act ~~then~~ pass both Houses of
Assembly the very next Day after Leave was given
to bring in the Bill contrary to the standing rules of
The Lower House whereby the Heir at Law and other
Legal representatives of the said John Contee who
were Subjects of Great Britain and then actually
residing in Great Britain were Deprived of the real
and personall Estate of the said John Contee without
The Least notice of such a proceeding or Opportunity
Of defending their Right contrary to Equity and
naturall Justice all which appears more fully set
forth in the petition Lodged in the proper Office and
is well made out to this present Generall Assembly
And whereas Due notice of the application
Rath been Given to m^r John Bruce the father and
Natural Guardian of Charles Bruce Son and Heir
at Law of a supposed Sister of the said Mary the
wife of the said John Contee and unto William Rogers
John Curts John Speake Richard Speake and John
Seale being all the persons known that had any

Claim