

except any Persons qualified for the Employment that was not disabled
in Crime then already committed, that the number of Persons to be Elected was
in the express Words left to the Sheriff, but only so as he did represent the
body aggregative of the County and the only Person to whom the Law directs
the Writts for summoning Assembly, so that upon the whole matter it was in
the Sheriff's power to restrain only Persons disabled by Law to Elect or be
Elected in the Freemen of the County and this We thought fit to certify.
Signed by the order of the Governour & Council
John Gittings Esq.

Ordered that Mr. Bateman & Mr. Lloyd do go to the Lowerhouse
with the two Petitions yesterday referred to the Lowerhouse their Consideration
together with three Copies of of Acts of Assembly yet in force with the An-
swer of the Governour & Council touching the Writts of Election of Burgeses

The Upper House Adjourned till three of the Clock in the Afternoon

The House again met Present as before

Upon receipt of a message sent by the Lower House to the Governour
in these Words.

The Burgeses humbly desire that an Act be passed with Consent of
both Houses of Assembly, that members or Burgeses of Assembly now attend-
ing, & ever hereafter, have free Liberty of Speech in delivering their Opinion
& Censures without Prejudice either of themselves their Persons or Estates to
any Bill propounded or what shall be propounded by them for the Good & Liberty
of the Inhabitants
William Bretton Esq.

Whereupon the Upper House sent to them for a Conference. Whereupon
the Speaker & the whole House coming into the Upper House the Governour
assured them that they might have all Liberty of Speech, & that there was no
necessity of making such an Act as was desired, & that they should have as much
Liberty as any Burgeses had or have in the Parliament of England or Magna
Charta did afford them in England with which the rest were satisfied & waived
the request for the Act.

The House have Adjourned till to morrow at ten of the Clock in the morning

Saturday the 20th of April. Present as yesterday

The Upper House met & adjourned till one of the Clock in the Afternoon

The House met again & Adjourned till
Monday morning at twelve of the Clock

Monday the 22^d of April

Present The Governour

{ Mr. Baker Brookes Mr. Edward Lloyd
Mr. Robert Clark Mr. John Bateman }

The House being sate there came from the Lowerhouse Mr. Thomas -