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Bridshires Assent to the said Act.

Resolved that Daniell Lenifer Messenger carry the att
entituled an Acte for prescribing how to give Evidence to
those of tender conscience with the reasons vnder written
why it cannot pass, to the lower house.

Reasons why the Acte prescribing how to give
Evidence to those of tender conscience cannot
pass.

1 The Assembly hath admitted and obliged the Judges to protest
according to the Lawe of England, and in that Lawe order
can take nor make life nor dispose of any mans Estate
but by the oath of lawfull witnesses

2 Many Lawes of this Province not to be repealed directly in
words prescribe an oath upon the holy Evangelists

3 Persons though not of tender conscience if they have a mind to
please a Justice knowing such a Declaration not to bind
soe severely in conscience as an oath, will be apt to strike
tender conscience, soe to waite a perjury before God.

4 It will render all Testimonies taken in this Province in all
any Court either in England or other plantations.

5 Upon the like Acte tendered the last Assembly not present
would engage or promise that all persons pretending an
Innocence of conscience would not give Evidence if settled by
Lawe.

John Gittings Esq.

Then was read the Acte appointing Sheriffs
Voted that it pass.

Resolved that the Acte touching Run awayes and the Act
concerning Indians be sent to the lower house with the
Innocence

The house adjourned till nine
of the Clock to morrow morn.

Friday the 11th of April

Present as before

Then was presented this following petition

To the Right hon^{ble} the Lieutenant Generall
with the rest of the wofull the
members of the Upper and
lower house

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Inhabitants of