

Liber A 6 Any of the 14 Burgesses (bownd to attend the Assembly) that shall bee absent from their howse att the hower & place appoynted (the Gou<sup>r</sup> & Secretary or any one of the Counsell being then assembled) is censured or adiudged to pay for euery such default 50<sup>l</sup> of Tob: & cask, unles iust excuse for such absence be made appeare

P. 364 7 All Tobbackos w<sup>ch</sup> shall accrew bee adiudged to the payd or rayzed for, or by reason of any misdemeanor, absence, or censure of any of the Burgesses during this Assembly, The Gou<sup>r</sup> is pleased (& the Assembly doth thereunto consent) shall bee disposed of towards the releife of the Poore of the Province  
Will<sup>m</sup> Stone.

m<sup>r</sup> Tho: Mathews, m<sup>r</sup> John Hatch & m<sup>r</sup> Walter Beane fyned by the howse in 50<sup>l</sup> Tob. apeece for not appearing.

The Burgesses desyre in the first place to debate & aduise concerning the 16 Lawes th<sup>t</sup> his L<sup>p</sup> might bee certified of their proceedings therein this yeare, in some conuenient time. And the Gou<sup>r</sup> conceiuing that the consultaōn of the Lower howse touching the 16 Lawes would requyre long time, adiorned the Vpper howse till wednesday next att 11 of the clock

The Lower howse adiorned by the Speaker 'till 9 a'clock next munday morning

Monday 8<sup>o</sup> Aprilis 1650

All assembled, none absent. m<sup>r</sup> Mathews, m<sup>r</sup> Hatch, & m<sup>r</sup> Beane are remitted their fine for th<sup>t</sup> it was proued not to bee uoluntary or willfull neglect in them, but iustly occasioned through fowle weather

was read his L<sup>ps</sup> Declaraōn sent in hither this yeare.

m<sup>r</sup> John Hatch & m<sup>r</sup> Beane sworne, as in the Burges oath m<sup>r</sup> Tho: Mathews refused to make oath, who had time to consider 'till afternoone. The howse adiorned till 1 clock.

Munday afternoone.

m<sup>r</sup> Thomas Mathews Burgesse of St<sup>t</sup> Inigos hund<sup>d</sup> being demanded to make oath as the other Burgesses.

Replied That he thought That oath could not bee taken by him, for th<sup>t</sup> according to his L<sup>ps</sup> instructions sent hither That All Poeple belieuing in Jesus Christ, should haue the free exercise of their Religion. And accordingly hee ought to bee guided in matters of conscience by his spirituall councill. And if soe bee, hee understood not, & could not bee satisfied in