

P. R. O. Which letter is entered at large in the entry book of Virginia  
Colonial V. 3. Pa: 308. The following orders and Reports were made  
Papers.

At the Court at Whitehall the 25. Feb<sup>ry</sup> 1684/5

Present

The King's most excellent Majesty in Council The Right Honorable the Lords of the Committee for Trade and Plantations having this day presented to the Board the ensuing report viz<sup>t</sup>

May it Please your Majesty

Wee have received from the Right Honorable the Earl of Sunderland a letter to his Lordship from Lord Howard of Effingham your Majesty's Governor of Virginia with other Papers concerning a barbarous murther committed on Christopher Rousby Collector of his late Majesty's Customs in Maryland by Colonell George Talbot one of the Councill and first in the commission of the Government of that Province during the absence of the Lord Baltemore, and therein wee do find that on the 31. of October last the said collector being on board your Majesty's Ketch, the Quaker in Patuxens River near Maryland, the said Talbot came on board and after some words had passed between Captain Allen the Commander and the said Talbot chiefly concerning your Majesty's Right of Iurisdiction in those Parts, the said Talbot without any just Provocation embracing the said Rousby, stabbed him with a dagger newly prepared and sharpened, whereof he immediately dyed. After which the said Talbot being put in Irons by Captain Allen, the Councill of Maryland had demanded him in their Lord Proprietaries name in order to his tryall by common Law in Maryland as for a Fact committed within the body of that Province, But two of their members who came on board the said Ketch having refused to demand the Prisoner in his late Majesty's name And Captain Allen conceiving the fact to have been committed as upon the sea carryed him to Virginia where he delivered him to your Majesty's Governor who with the advice of the Councill has humbly represented the State and evidence of this case for your Majesty's directions in what manner and place the Tryall shall be had, whereunto his Lordship was induced as well by the nature and enormity of the Crime both in Relation to the murther which was committed on a Person who had the honor of his late Majesty's Commission and trust in an employment of such importance to your Majesty's Revenue, as to the quality of the Prisoner who had after the fact threatened that if he were on shore, he would raise a thousand men for his further revenge. Upon which considerations and that the