

P. R. O. Steevens one of y<sup>o</sup> Councill in Maryland being examined by  
Colonial the originall now in the hands of  
Papers.

C Baltimore  
Dec 14: 81:

B. B., p. 28

15 Dec. 1681.

May it Please your Lord<sup>ps</sup>

In Obedience to your Lord<sup>ps</sup> Comande Signified to me by M<sup>r</sup> Guy on an order of his Maj<sup>ty</sup> in Councill of the 20 June last and Copy of a letter from my Lord Baltimore Proprietor of Maryland to my Lord Privy Seale of the 28 April proceeding both hereunto annexed Complayning of the Insolent and un-warrantable proceedings of Christopher Rousby the collector there tending greatly to the discouragement of the Trade diminution of his Ma<sup>ty</sup>es Customes and disturbance of the peace and Quiett of that Colony etc by the sayd Letter more at large appears

We do humbly report to your Lord<sup>ps</sup> That we have called the sayd Rousby before us and charged him w<sup>th</sup> the severall Matters Complayed off and Received his Answer thereunto a Copy of which is hereunto annexed As also a Copy of his former Answer to a Letter from my Lord Baltimore to our Selves to the same Effect. But in regard there are no Particulars transmitted upon the Pointes Complayned off Nor any Proofes of the same We are humbly of opinion That it would be very much to the prejudice of his Ma<sup>ty</sup>es Concernes and the discouragements of the Collectors and other Officers of his Ma<sup>ty</sup>es Customes in those Parts if they should upon such Termes be Removed or dismissed. And therefore we pray that the sayd Rousby may be Returned to his charge, and that a Letter be written to my Lord Baltimore desireing him that if he shall hereafter have any Cause of Complaint against the sayd Rousby That he will first give him a p<sup>t</sup>icular Charge thereof and Receive his Answer thereunto and then transmitt both the sayd Charge and Answer to us w<sup>th</sup> the Proofes thereof w<sup>ch</sup> will be a meanes to prevent the lose of time that will otherwise be occasioned by transmitting hither such Charge alone and afterwards sending the same back for an Answer

We have also hereunto annexed such affid<sup>ts</sup> and other Evidences as the sayd M<sup>r</sup> Rousby hath produced before us in his own defence

All w<sup>ch</sup> is humbly submitted  
to your Lord<sup>ps</sup> Considerations

I Butler

Custom house Lond<sup>o</sup>

15 December 1681

Ch: Cheyne

G Dowring.