

Extract of a letter from my Lord Effingham dated in Virginia the 20 of March 1684/5 concerning Coll: Talbots escape.

P. R. O.
Colonial
Entry Book,
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I am sorry to send you the News by these that Coll: Talbot hath escaped out of Prison Ours are so weak here that I rather wonder he was kept so long, he had a guard of two men every night and one in the day, besides he was sufficiently ironed but he corrupted his Guards and others Persons in the house and those that were assisting to his escape I had had under examination and found great suspision tho' no positive proof against them, but so much that I committed them to Prison, from whence they are since likewise escaped. I immediately sent advice of it to Maryland to let them know it was their duty as well as mine to retake Him because the King's Pleasure was not yet known, where he should be tryed, And that such a murtherer might not escape, condign Punishment.

Whereupon a Clause was inserted in My Lord Effingham's Instructions dated the 30th August 1685 as followeth

Whereas wee have been given to understand that George Talbot, after having committed a barbarous Murther on the body of Christopher Rousby Collector of our customs in Maryland hath made his Escape into that Province and continues there, Wee do hereby strictly charge and direct you to demand the said Talbot in our name to be returned as our Prisoner into your hands in what condition soever he be, whether before or after any pretended Tryall or Acquittall of him in Maryland Wee having given directions for a speciall Commission of Oyer and Terminer to be prepared and transmitted unto you for his due and legall Tryall in Virginia for the Fact whereof he stands accused.

Wednesday 26th August 1685.

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The Lord Baltimore and M^r Penn attending upon the differences between them touching Boundaries and Title of Soil in America are called in And their Lord^{sh} appoint to hear this business on Wednesday the 2^d of the next month when both parties agreed to attend without Counsel.

Wednesday 2nd September 1685.

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The Lord Baltimore and William Penn Esq. attending this day according to order upon the difference between them concerning Boundaries of Land and Title of soil in America And M^r Penn having produced divers proofs to make out that the Country of Delaware was inhabited by the Swedes and Dutch