

(305)

Council day, and in the mean time have a copy sent him of
said Complaint

Wm Bridgeman

His L^{ty} attended a card and then put in his answer in writing

The Lord Baltimores answer to the Complaints of Mr.
Nathaniel Blackiston mentioned in his L^{ty} to J^{ts} Court of
his Maj^{ty}s customs dated the 20th of Aprill 1685.

Mr. Bridgeman's answer
to Mr. Blackiston's complaint

It plainly appears by a L^{tr} from the Govern^r of Virginia to
the Deputie of Maryland, that the escape made by George Talbot
out of prison was occasioned by the corruption of the guard, and
procured by any persons of Maryland, as is falsely suggested in the
L^{tr} of the said Blackiston. But that as soon as the Govern^r
of Virginia had given notice to the Deputie of Maryland of the
said Talbot's escape, special care was taken immediately by the
for his apprehension, as appears by the Ill^l and crye sent out
into all parts of the Province, which what other way could
could be used for the speedy bringing in of the said Talbot, who
never was publicly seen at his own plantation (though contrary
is affirmed by the said Blackiston) but always kept himself
in the mountains to the Northward, until at last he resolved
to surrender himself to the Deputie of Maryland, where upon
he is under a strong guard, to be disposed off as his Maj^{ty} shall
think fit.

His L^{ty} is very confident Mr. Blackiston has not just cause to
complain of his being discontinued in the execution of his
place, for that he very well knows the Officers care not
presume to offer any contempt, nor show the least disrespect
either to his person or commission nor would they presume to
disobey Masters & servants from p^renting themselves and their
certificates to his Maj^{ty}s Officers, His L^{ty} having long since
ordered that they should apply themselves to the Kings Collectors
as well as to his own, and such was the practice when Mr.
Christopher Rousby was living, and the truth of this may be
easily known, from several Masters of ships, and others now
in Town, & lest Mr. Christopher Rousby was so unfortunately

Killed