May and ye. The Jurors of our Soveraign Lady the Queen that now is for the
body of this present upon their Oaths do present William Ward late of Kim=
Arundell County Labour & Margarett Ward his wife of the said County
for that they the said William & Margarett not having the fear of God before
their Eyes but moved by the Instigation of the Devill & their Malice prepenced
the third day of May in the year of our Lord 1708 at Stoning Crook Hundred in
the County afore with force & Arms &c assaulted & in Upon the body
of one John Austen then and there in the peace of God & the said Lady
the Queen being did make & with one Iron Hower & Wooden Staffe of the value
of twelve pence that which the said William Ward then & there in his hands
did hold & with the other Iron Hower with wooden Staffe of the value of twelve
pence that which the said Margarett in her hands then & there did hold divers
Mortall Stroakes & Wounds on the Head & Body of him the said John
Austin feloniously did Strike & make of which said Stroakes & Strokes and
wounds the said John Austen then & there instantly dyed & so the Jurors
aforesaid upon their Oaths aforesaid say that the said William Ward & Mar=
=garett his wife him the said John Austin in manner & form aforesaid at the
day & place aforesaid feloniously & of their Malice forethought did kill & do
Murder against the Ma^ty^s peace Crown & Dignity &c. W Dent

Then the Court discharges the Grand Jury from their Longer attendance & Ordered they be allowed Eight hundred pounds of Tobacco for
their service this present day to be paid & allowed out of the publick Levy
thing according to Law.

Ordered the Sheriff again set the prisoners to the Barr.

The Bill being read to them upon which they were indicted & upon their
Indictment were arraigned & on Arraignm^t^ the said William Ward in
Court Confest himself guilty of the Murder whereof he stood indicted. Ordered
that the Third Jury Try him. And the said Margarett Ward being demanded
whether she was guilty of the Matter whereof she stood indicted or not guilty
pleaded not Guilty. And for her tryall put herself upon God & the County. Commanded
it therefore Given to the Sheriff of Kim Arundell County that he cause to come
twelve &c. &c. to Jury &c.

Afterwards to wit the same day Said Mon=ond Came as well the Atty
Generall for our Lady the Queen and the said Margarett again set to the Barr as
the Jurors of that Jury being called & Returns Came (to wit) Sy Rowlan Hoskett

John Bramwell Andrew Skinner [illegible] Francis Wood Thomas
Thomas Sawkin Gerard Rice Thomas Lacy Roger Newman William Ed=
=ward Smith who being Elected tryed & Sworne well & truly to try & the
Evidence make Between our Soveraign Lady the Queen and the Prisoner
Margarett prisoner at the Barr whom they have in Charge upon their Oaths
do say they find Margarett Ward guilty of the Murther whereof she stands
indicted. Whereupon the Court adjourned her in Custody of the Sheriff
to Bettor for the Coming on the Morrow.

The Court adjourns till to Morrow Morning Eight a Clock.

May the Seventh 1708.

The Courtagain Met & the Prisoner at the Bar was at present as Yesterday
Ordered that the Bill be to the Barr. The said Wm Ward & Margarett his wife
and the said Wm Ward being informed by the Court that he may remember
that Yesterday he was indicted for a Murther Committed or done upon the body
of one John Austin upon his Indictment he was arraigned & on his arraig=
=nment he in open Court confest himself to be guilty of the Murder whereof
he stood indicted and therefore he was demanded if he had any
thing to say for himself why Judgment of Death should not passagainst
him according to Law and the said William having nothing to say
It is therefore Considered by the Justices here that the said William Ward
be hanged by the Neck. Let it be Ordered.

And afterwards the said Margarett Ward was set to the Barr
being informed by the Court that the night Remember that yesterday
was indicted for Murder Committed & by her done upon the body of one
Austin on her Indictment she was arraigned. And upon her arraignment she
pleaded not guilty & for her tryall put herself upon God & the County. The
County found her guilty of the Murder whereof she stood indicted and
being demanded if anything she had to say why Sentence of Death should
not pass against her according to Law but she having nothing to say
It is Considered by the Justices here that the said Margarett Ward be
hanged by the Neck. Let it be Ordered.