

Boston April 15. 1806

It is with extreme reluctance that I intrude upon you, when I know that every moment of your time is importantly employ'd.-

Yesterday after you left town my partner Mr. Symmes, & myself were sew'd with a percept to attend the Court at Northampton next week—it will be extremely inconvenient for both Mr. Symmes, & myself to leave town next week—and I really, of my own knowledge know very little of the business on which we are summon'd- - Mr. Symmes himself attended the man who purchas'd the Pistols, and observed him closely—while I was at too considerable distance to render it probable I sh'd know him again, - and derive nearly all my knowledge in the case from what was told me after the man left my store. - Altho I would sacrifice almost every private concern to bring a Villain to Justice, - yet I never could have been call'd from home at a moment more inconvenient, my family being visited with sickness.

Permit me then to request you, and thro you the honorable Court, that I may be excus'd from attending the Court at Northampton next week, -- and should another witness besides Mr. Symmes be necessary, - Mr. Charles Clarke, a young man belonging to my store, between 19 & 20 years of age, was standing by Mr. Symmes at the time,- and knows much more of the business than I do, will attend the orders of the Court.-

*Being the favor of an immediate reply, I am, with very great respect,-
Sir, Your obed', & most humble,*

Samuel Torry

*Honble. James Sullivan Esq.
Atty. Genl.*