

Spring Garden
May 13th 1782.

My Lord

The Clerk of assize of the Home
Circuit, having communicated to me a
Letter received by him from the Gaoler of
Hertford, relative to the Behaviour of
Wiggs & Steele (who were convicted at the
last Hertford assize of High way Robberys)
I directed him to lay the same before your
Lordship; but thought it might be proper
for his Majesty's Information, to have the
Facts better authenticated than barely by
Letter; I ordered the Gaoler to be apply'd
to upon that Subject, & he has returned an
affidavit which I have the Honour to
enclose to your Lordship. as their Beha-
vour seems to have been so little influenced
by the Hopes they might entertain of his

13th May 1782

Richard Ashurst

relation to Wiggs & Steele
convicted in Hertford assize.

to be sent to you

Majestys Mercy, they seem but little
deserving of it. In regard to Mr. Steele
I understood from the Clerk of a pipe that
a conditional Pardon had gone down (upon
the Terms of his being sent to the Thames)
but that the same had been returned on
account of some Mistake in the Letter; as
this is the case, it might possibly be
rather too much, wholly to recall his
Majestys intended Mercy; but should humbly
submit it to his Majestys Consideration,
whether it might not be proper to impose
severer Terms (namely those of entering
into the Service on the Coast of Africa
for Life) as to Henry Wiggs (as I am
informed that no Pardon has hitherto gone
down) I should most humbly refer it to his
Majestys Consideration, whether he has not
forfeited all claim to his Majestys Mercy,

& whether it may not be fit that his
former Sentence should be carried into
Execution; as I should fear there can
be but small hopes of his ever becoming
a usefull Member of Society, if even
the success of his present precarious Situa-
tion, could not induce him to be more
watchfull over his Conduct. I have
the Honour to be (with great Respect
My Lord

Your Lords Leps most
obedient humble servant

W. A. Ashurst