Warwick, April 1. 1832,

My Lord,

As I understand that a petition has been forwarded to your Lordship in favour of Burbury & Sparkes, 2 persons who were convicted before me of destroying Machinery in the Mill of Mr Beck of Coventry on the 7th Nov last, I have thought it right to send to your Lordship a copy of my notes of the Trial: & also another petition, with respectable signatures which has been presented to me.

The Prisoners were also indicted at the same Assizes for demolishing the house & for setting it on fire, but I directed them to be tried on this Indictment as being the simplest & most easy of proof. The conviction of 3 rendered the other Trials useless.

The Defence of Burbury, whom I consider as the principal offender, may be true in fact - It may be true that he prevented some persons at one time, from doing more injury to Beck than was done; & it may be true, that he was on the Mill Dam, for a time, during the latter part of the transaction. The Defence seems to have been prepared to meet the case of arson; & it is quite consistent with it, that all the mischief to the machinery (& even the setting fire to the premises) might have taken place, in the interval, between the time that Burbury was said to lead Beck down the gateway, & his subsequent appearance on the Mill Dam, though the fire may not have been out till afterwards.

I am quite satisfied with the Verdict, which could not have been lessened upon the evidence, & I thought it right in so very serious a case, where property worth between 1500 or 2000 was destroyed by a mob, principally of weavers, that an example should be made.

I shall have finished the Assizes here on Tuesday night & will call at the Home Office either on Wednesday or Thursday if your Lordship should wish to see me.

The day of Execution is the 9th April, Wednesday.

I have the honour to be

Your Lordship's most humble,

J Parke