

of sympathy for the poverty of the family of Hargett - I also received a letter from Judge Marshall in which he says "that Judge T. Brett, himself and himself have been requested to sign the petition, but concerning in the correctness of the verdict, they did not feel at liberty as judges to write in the petition" and proceeds to say that "He could not in his official capacity sign a petition, yet he has no hesitation to state that he would be individually gratified at his receiving a pardon &c &c" - The plain meaning of which is that the Judge is willing that I should officially pardon a man whose pardon he could not officially recommend -

In view of the excited state of public feeling at the time of my becoming Governor in reference to the exercise of the pardoning power, I found it necessary to establish some rules of action to govern me in the exercise of this power. One of the rules adopted is that the recommendation of the Judges or some one of them should be required - This rule I think you will approve of and as it has not been complied with in the present case I cannot grant the pardon - The Judges before whom a trial takes place, know all the facts and are entirely qualified to judge of the propriety of the pardon &c &c - I address this letter to you that the family of Hargett may be apprised of the result of his application -

Yours &c &c

Thos. G. Pratt

Annapolis March 19th 1845

Dr. Sir

I have this day received the record of the conviction of Henry C. Curry of Murder in the first degree, and I now write to ask the favour of you to inform me, whether any circumstances were developed at the trial to raise a doubt of his guilt - I would also be obliged to you if you would consult with the Minister who has attended him, and ask him to say what time should be allowed him, to prepare for the execution of his sentence -

Yours &c &c

Thos. G. Pratt

To George R. Richardson Esq.

Deputy Attorney General

To

Henry Thomas Esq. &c.

State Department

March 24th 1845

You will find enclosed an order on the Treasury for the amount of your account as Armorer at Easton for your salary from the first of October 1844 to the 14th February 1845

Respect &c &c

Thos. G. Pratt