

Stockbridge, 16.th May, 1783.Rev.^d & Dear Sir,

Elijah Wimpey, the bearer, waits on you to ask your kind assistance relative to the Petition which he is about to prefer to the General Court. M^r Kirkland designed to have presented it; but is prevented by bodily illness. Wimpey will shew you the petition: and, you may be assured the representation which it makes of their necessities, is not too strong, or at all exaggerated. They are a needy people, and I ~~very~~ verily trust that some of them may justly be considered as the Lord's poor. That, whatever service you may do for them, will not only be gratefully acknowledged by them; but, I trust be an acceptable sacrifice to HIM who regards the poor in this world, with the same eye of compassion and mercy, as the rich and the affluent. But, as I presume you need no stimulus to ^aso kind and generous an act, I only add that,

I am, Sir, with Respect & Esteem,
Your Obed.^t Hum.^{le} Serv.^t
Stephen West.

Rev.^d M^r Strong.

[verso:

The Reverend Nathan Strong

Hartford.