

**Letter from Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, The Court, to Richard Bagot, 1588 April 25: autograph manuscript signed, Papers of the Bagot family of Blithfield, Staffordshire. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS L.a.457, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.**

**leaf 1 recto**

Mr Bagot, whereas I have occasion to use those garters  
of my father's, which I understand be in your keeping, I pray  
you deliver them to this bearer Thomas Ayre my servant  
to whom I have given order to bring them unto me. And thus  
with my hearty commendations unto you. I commit you to God.  
from Court the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 1588.

Your very loving friend  
Robert Essex

**leaf 1 verso**

**leaf 2 recto**

**leaf 2 verso**

To my very loving friend  
Richard Bagot Esquire

My Lord of Essex  
letters for his garters  
of the order