

**Letter from Edward Stafford, 12th Baron Stafford, to Sir Edward Aston, Sir Edward Littleton, and Richard Bagot, 1592: autograph manuscript signed, Papers of the Bagot family of Blithfield, Staffordshire. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS L.a.868, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.**

**leaf 1 recto**

Sir Becaus the Bisshop our diocessary is not my frend  
I thowght best to aduertis Sir Edward Littleton & you  
of a searche that I yesterday made within my Libertys  
of forbridge for a semynary preist who althowgh I  
could not fynd (acording to thinformacion) yet vpon my  
breaking the doore of one Closet I found <sup>^unlawfull</sup> bookes ther  
& som Images, & althowgh ther be dyuers other places  
ther as fastly lockt, yet will I forbeare to open  
any of them vntill any of you who be Comissioners  
will take the paynes to com to morow mornynge  
about eight or nyn a clocke ther to meet me who  
thowgh I am no Comissioner for recusantes yet will  
not I haue any such Lawlesse persons to be  
harbored vpon my land, & therfor I haue comytted  
Tulleys wieffe vnto the iaile being an obstynate  
recusant & a shamelesse scolde/ & hit is told  
me that hir husband (being a great dronkard  
& a comon swearer & a bankroote) is guilty of all  
So in hast I take my leaue/ scribed this  
Tewsday mornynge/

Your Louyng Neibour & assured frend  
*Edward Stafford*

**leaf 1 verso**

**leaf 2 recto**

**leaf 2 verso**

To the right wurshipfull  
sir Edward Aston, and sir Edward  
Littleton knyghtes deliuer this  
And to Mr Richard Bagot  
Esquyre one of the *Queen* maiestes  
Comissioners for recusantes

The *Lord* Staffordes lettres  
against henry Tullye

