

**Letter from John Donne to Sir Thomas Egerton, 1601/1602 February 13:  
autograph manuscript signed, Papers of the More family of Loseley Park,  
Surrey. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS  
L.b.530, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.**

leaf 2 verso || leaf 1 recto

leaf 1 verso || leaf 2 recto

Onely in that Coyne, wherein they that Delight to do benefitts,  
and good turnes for the works sake, love to be payd, ame I  
riche, w<sup>ch</sup> ys Thankfullnes; w<sup>ch</sup> I humbly and abundantly  
p<sup>r</sup>sent to yo<sup>r</sup> lp. Beseeching yo<sup>w</sup>, to give such way and Enter-  
tainment to this vertu of Mercy, w<sup>ch</sup> ys allways in yo<sup>w</sup>, and  
allwayes awake, that yt may so soften yo<sup>w</sup>, that as yt hath  
wrought for me, the best of bodily blessings, w<sup>ch</sup> ys, this way  
to Health, So yt may gaine my Mind her Cheife Comfort,  
w<sup>ch</sup> ys yo<sup>r</sup> pardon for <sup>^my</sup> the bold and p<sup>r</sup>sumtuous offence. All=  
mighty god be allwayes so w<sup>th</sup> yo<sup>w</sup> in this world, as yo<sup>w</sup> may  
be sure to be with him in the next.

13<sup>o</sup> Feb: 1601

Yo<sup>r</sup> lps

poore and repentant

Servant

I: Donne

To the right honorable  
my very good L: and  
Master S<sup>r</sup> Thomas  
Egerton knight, L keeper  
of the great Seale  
of England