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.

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Only in that Coin, wherein they that Delight to do benefits, and good turns for the work's sake, love to be paid, am I rich, which is Thankfulness; which I humbly and abundantly present to your lordship. Beseeching you, to give such way and Entertainment to this virtue of Mercy, which is always in you, and always awake, that it may so soften you, that as it hath wrought for me, the best of bodily blessings, which is, this way to Health, So it may gain my Mind her Chief Comfort, which is your pardon for my the bold and presumptuous offence. Almighty God be always so with you in this world, as you may be sure to be with him in the next.

13th February 1601 Your Lordship's poor and repentant Servant John Donne

To the right honorable my very good Lord and Master Sir Thomas Egerton knight, Lord keeper of the great Seal of England