

**Letter from John Donne, "at my poor house," to Sir George More, 1614  
December 3: autograph manuscript signed, Papers of the More family of  
Loseley Park, Surrey. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online  
(EMMO). MS L.b.538, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.**

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Sir

I returned not till yesternight, from my expensive journey to Newmarket. Where I have received from the King, as good allowance, and encouragement to pursue my purpose, as I could desire. Whilst I was there, I found that my Lord Chamberlain, refused to swear a Gentleman into a place of Grolme of the chamber, after he had bargained for it, because he was a Servant to my Lord of Canterbury. This, and some other lights make me see, that matters stand not so well between them, but that they are likely to oppose one another's dependants. Before I go about to seek my Lord of Canterbury, I would gladly, if I could, discern his inclination to me, and if whether he have any conjecture upon my relation to my Lord Chamberlain which he is very likely to have come to his knowledge, since my going, by reason of his Lordship's more open avowing me, then heretofore. If therefore, you have taken any occasion to speak with his Grace, since I desired that favor of you, and have perceived any thing thereby, which you think fit that I should know before your coming hither, I humbly beseech you to let me understand it, when any Servant of yours hath occasion to come to London: that I may use my best means of disposing him towards it. My Lord Chamberlain hath laid his commandment upon the Master of Requests, to forbear to move the king in the other business, for any man; though I saw the Bill, for the King's hand, and saw that it was still earnestly pursued out of York House. His Lordship hath assured me, that it shall sleep, till I move him to set it afoot hereafter, when my Son, or any for me may have profit thereby. With which purpose I will acquaint my Lord Chancellor, and humbly entreat him, that it may be so. And so, sir, with my humble duty to you, and your poor daughters, I leave you to our most blessed Savior.

Yours ever to be commanded

John Donne.

At my poor house.

3 December 1614.

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