

**Letter from Walter Bagot to Mr. Skipwith (Jane Skipwith's brother), 1611:
autograph manuscript draft, Papers of the Bagot family of Blithfield,
Staffordshire. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO).
MS L.a.135, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.**

leaf 1 recto

Sir I did write unto my much esteemed Lady your mother-in-law in September last
desiring to be satisfied from her whether there were either marriage or
contract past betwixt my disobedient son and my niece your sister
or not which at that time I greatly suspected. I received her kind answer which
~~I do not suspect but she plainly thought to be true~~ which in respect
of that reverend opinion I hold of her virtues I will not suspect but at it
that time was the plain truth ~~which was~~ (a denial of both) first in her own opinion
and secondly by my niece in her letters with a protestation that she would
never hereafter give ear unto any such motion. Calling to remembrance
her fathers letters who advised her ever to be thankful to her friends.
Not withstanding her protestations my graceless son now affirmeth
there is such promise past betwixt them as can not be revoked.
He hath withdrawn his obedience from me and hath continued
in a base infamous place in Godwin's house in London since Christmas last till
Saturday last, ~~Sheweth him~~ Charged to be the father of a bastard
Child begotten on a base Strumpet servant unto a gentlewoman of
this Country and taken in bed with her Cooke a married man. for this
his wicked life his obstinate disobedience and infinite others lewd
conditions I have rejected him ~~and are~~ purposing God willing to disinherit
him) And whilst I live mean to withdraw ~~my~~ all my maintenance
from him. If these show the fruits of true affection unto my niece
I pray God send them as much joy together as I receive Comfort
by them. Thus much I thought good out of my love to make you acquainted
with whom ~~you acquainted and herewith I leave to~~ it shall please you to impart it to I leave to your
good
consideration And so rest. your loving uncle

leaf 1 verso