

**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 Because the Bishop our Diocessary is not my friend  
I thought best to advertise Sir Edward Littleton & you  
of a search that I yesterday made within my Liberties  
of Forbridge for a seminary priest who although I  
could not find (according to the information) yet upon my  
breaking the door of one Closet I found unlawfull books there  
& some Images, & although there be diverse other places  
there as fastly locked, yet will I forebear to open  
any of them until any of you who be Commissioners  
will take the pains to come tomorrow morning  
about eight or nine a clock there to meet me who  
though I am no Commissioner for recusants yet will  
not I have any such Lawless persons to be  
harbored upon my land, & therefore I have committed  
Tully's wife unto the jail being an obstinate  
recusant & a shameless scold/ & it is told  
me that her husband (being a great drunkard  
& a common swearer & a bankrupt) is guilty of all  
So in haste I take my leave/ scribbled this  
Tuesday morning/

Your Loving Neighbor & assured friend  
Edward Stafford

**leaf 1 verso**

**leaf 2 recto**

**leaf 2 verso**

To the right worshipful  
Sir Edward Aston, and Sir Edward  
Littleton knights deliver this  
And to Mr Richard Bagot  
Esquire one of the Queen Majesty's  
Commissioners for recusants

The Lord Stafford's letters  
against Henry Tully

