

**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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leaf 1 verso || leaf 2 recto

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.

13<sup>th</sup> 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