

**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.**

leaf 1 recto

S^r

I returnd not tyll yesternight, from my expensive iourney
to Newmarket. Where I haue receyvd fro y^e Kinge, as good
allowance, and encoragement to pursue my purpose, as I
could desire. Whilst I was there, I found y^t my L: chamber=
lane, refus'd to swear a Gent: into a place of Grolme of
y^e chamber, after he had bargaind for yt, because he
was a Servant to my L: of Canterbury. Thys, and some
other lights make me see, that matters stand not so well
between them, but y^t they are likely to oppose one anothers
dependants. Before I go about to seeke my L: of Canter-
bury, I would gladly, if I could, discerne hys inclination to
me, and if whether he haue any coniecture upon my relatiō
to my L: chamberl: w^{ch} ^he ys very likely to haue come to hys
knowledge, since my goinge, by reason of hys Lps more open
avowinge me, then heretofore. If therefore, yo^w haue taken
any occasion to speake wth hys Grace, since I desired y^t fauer
of yo^w, and haue perceyvd any thinge therby, w^{ch} yo^w thinke
fytt y^t I should know before y^r comminge hether, I humbly
besecche yo^w to let me understand it, when any Servant of
y^rs hath occasion to come to London: y^t I may use my best
meanes of disposing hym towards yt. My L: chamb: hath
layd hys commandement upon y^e M^r of Requests, to forbear
to move y^e k: in y^e other busines, for any man; though I saw
y^e Byll, for y^e kings hande, and saw y^t it was styll earnestly
pursued out of yorkhouse. Hys Lp hath assurd me, that
yt shall sleepe, tyll I move hym to sett yt afoote hereaf-
ter, when my Sonne, or any for mee ^{may}^ haue profit therby. Wth
w^{ch} purpose I wyll acquaint my L: chancelor, and humbly in-
treat hym, y^t it may be so. And so, s^r, wth my humble duty to
yo^w, and yo^r poore daughters, I leave yo^w to our most blessed Sa=
uyor.

yours euer to be comāded

I: Donne.

At my poore house.

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