

**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

Sir

I returnd not tyll yesternight, from my expensive iourney
to Newmarket. Where I haue receyvd from *the* Kinge, as good
allowance, and encoragement to pursue my purpose, as I
could desire. Whilst I was there, I found *that* my Lord chamber=
lane, refus'd to swear a *Gentleman* into a place of Grolme of
the chamber, after he had bargaind for yt, because he
was a Servant to my Lord of Canterbury. Thys, and some
other lights make me see, that matters stand not so well
between them, but *that* they are likely to oppose one anothers
dependants. Before I go about to seeke my Lord of Canter-
bury, I would gladly, if I could, discern e hys inclination to
me, and if whether he haue any coniecture upon my relation
to my Lord chamberlain which ^{he} ys very likely to haue come to hys
knowledge, since my goinge, by reason of hys Lordships more open
avowing me, then heretofore. If therefore, yow haue taken
any occasion to speake with hys Grace, since I desired *that* fauer
of yow, and haue perceyvd any thinge therby, which yow thinke
fytt *that* I should know before *your* comminge hether, I humbly
besecche yow to let me understand it, when any Servant of
yours hath occasion to come to London: *that* I may use my best
meanes of disposinge hym towards yt. My Lord chamberlain hath
layd hys commandement upon *the* Master of Requests, to forbear
to move *the* king in *the* other busines, for any man; though I saw
the Byll, for *the* kings hande, and saw *that* it was styll earnestly
pursued out of yorkhouse. Hys Lordship 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. With
which purpose I wyll acquaint my Lord chancelor, and humbly in-
treat hym, *that* it may be so. And so, sir, with my humble duty to
yow, and *your* poore daughters, I leave yow to our most blessed Sa=
uyor.

yours euer to be commanded

Iohn Donne.

At my poore house.

3 December i6i4.

leaf 1 verso