

**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.**

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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, discerne hys inclination to  
me, and if whether he haue any coniecture upon my relation  
to my Lord chamberlain which <sup>he</sup> ys very likely to haue come to hys  
knowledge, since my goinge, by reason of hys Lordships more open  
avowing me, then heretofore. If therfore, 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  
fyt *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 yorkehouse. 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 <sup>may</sup> 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.

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