

**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, 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
avowinge 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.

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