Letter from John Donne to Sir Robert More, Loseley, 1614 August 10: autograph manuscript signed, Papers of the More family of Loseley Park, Surrey. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS L.b.539, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.

leaf 1 recto

Sir

Since I had no other thing in contemplation when I purposed this journey, then my health, me thinks it is a kind of physic, to be so long about that; and I grow weary of physic quickly. I have therefore put off that purpose; at least till the King come into these parts. If your horse, (which I return by this carrier of Guildford) have not found as good Salads in our Covent Garden, as he should at Loseley, yet I believe he hath had more ease, then he should have had there. We are condemned to this Desert of London for all this summer: for it is Company, not houses which distinguishes between Cities, and Deserts. When I began to apprehend, that even to myself, who can relieve myself upon books, solitariness was a little burdenous, I believed it would be much more so, to my wife, if she were left alone. So much company therefore, as I am, she shall not want: and we had not one another at so cheap a rate, as that we should ever be weary of one another. Sir, when these places afford any thing worth your knowledge, I shall be your Referendary. Now, my errand is only to deliver my thanks and services, accompanied with your poor sisters, to yourself, and all your good Company.

Yours ever to be commanded, John Donne 10 August 1614.

I pray Sir give this note enclosed to my lady, your mother. it is of some parcels which she commanded my wife to buy for her. which are sent down, at this time, by the Carrier

leaf 1 verso || leaf 2 recto leaf 2 verso

To the right worshipful Sir Robert More knight at Loseley.