

Legal opinion of Sir Humphrey Davenport, 1620 June 29: autograph manuscript by Sir George More with autograph reply signed by Davenport, Papers of the More family of Loseley Park, Surrey. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS L.b.669, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.

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A prisoner committed to the Tower of London bringeth into the tower for his use there, furniture for his lodging, and plate and household stuff. Then the prisoner is attained of treason or felony. The Lieutenant of the Tower claimeth these goods as belonging to him by his Office. but doth not seize them nor take them away out of the possession of the prisoner, and then the Lieutenant giveth over his place, the prisoner still continuing in the tower, and under the Custody of a new Lieutenant
The question is, whether these goods do appertain to the first Lieutenant, and whether he may take them and seize them so long as the prisoner continueth in the tower and useth them /.

In my opinion the goods Above-mentioned do clearly belong to the Lieutenant of the Tower for the time being at the time of the Attainder And not to the successor. the not seizure of such goods by the said former Lieutenant before the departure of him from his said office notwithstanding

Humphrey Davenport
29. June. 1620.

leaf 1 verso

29 June 1620
Case as to the goods of one
convicted of treason of felony
being in the Tower
Tower./