

**Letter from Sir Rowland Stanley, Hooton, to Thomas Fletcher, mayor of Chester, 1597 December 30: autograph manuscript signed. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS X.c.15, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.**

**leaf 1 recto**

Good Mr Fletcher, here is a poor tenant of mine the bearer hereof who not long since had some goods taken from him by a bad fellow, who as he informeth me was Executed now lately in your City for other offence, and as my tenant informeth me he is able to prove by good witness that upon his Execution he did confess that this poor man's goods were to be had, from one Jasper Gillam, and one Couldocke, who as I hear are two of your officers of your town. I would therefore entreat that favor at your hand hands as to steady this poor man so much for my sake as to Examine the matter, so that this poor man may have his goods again if it be possible: And in so doing I will surely think myself greatly beholding to you. Thus with my hardiest commendations to yourself I end Hooton this 30<sup>th</sup> of December 1597

Your very loving friend  
Rowland Stanley

**leaf 1 verso**

To the Worshipful my very  
good friend Mr Thomas  
Fletcher Mayor of  
the City of  
Chester give this