

**Letter from Richard Napier, Linford, Buckinghamshire, to unidentified recipient, 1631/1632 January 1: autograph manuscript signed. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS X.c.24, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.**

leaf 1 recto

Thrice honoured lady. It is not my vse, to be troublesome to my mutch honoured frinds. but when I am mutch importuned & y<sup>t</sup> by myne owne mynister, of whose learning & paching I and my, good neighbours have had good experienc, I am Informned that y<sup>e</sup> last mynister m<sup>r</sup> Pon is very lately deputed out of this vale of misery. & by that meanes, you are destitute of on that can supply the place, these are therfore to in treat this favour at y<sup>e</sup> ladyships hands y<sup>t</sup> at my request you wilbe pleased to admyt of m<sup>r</sup> Ruddle my minyster into the vacant place, if you shall fynd him better qualified for learning & paching then any other y<sup>t</sup> happely may be offred vnto your choice, I doe heare y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>r</sup> ladyship doth affect some other,. but no way cōparable for ought I cā vnderstand w<sup>th</sup> m<sup>r</sup> Rudle as you may easely fynd, if it shall please you to make triall of him, I make no doubt but m<sup>r</sup> Ruddle will not only show him selfe A serviceable, but also very thanckfull to thē y<sup>t</sup> shall gratify him in this his suite thus hoping y<sup>t</sup> your ladyship will voutchsafe him some favour in this first petition y<sup>t</sup> ever I motioned to y<sup>r</sup> ladyship, I will cease to be more troublesome vnto you & will ever rest

Your ladyships ever to be  
cmanded  
Rich: Napeir  
Linford Ian: the first  
1631

leaf 1 verso