

**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 lear  
ning & 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  
depted 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 cōpara  
ble 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 trou  
blesome vnto you & will ever rest

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

**leaf 1 verso**