

**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 & *that* by myne owne mynister, of whose learning & *preaching* I and my, good neighbours have had good experienc, I am Informned that *the* last mynister mr Pon is very lately departed out of this vale of misery. & by that meanes, you are destitute of on that can supply the place, these are therefore to in treat this favour at *the* ladyships hands *that* at my request you wilbe pleased to admyt of mr Ruddle my minyster into the vacant place, if you shall fynd him better qualified for learning & *preaching* then any other *that* happely may be offred vnto your choice, I doe heare *that* your ladyship doth affect some other,. but no way comparable for ought I can vnderstand with mr Rudle as you may easely fynd, if it shall please you to make triall of him, I make no doubt but mr Ruddle will not only show him selfe A serviceable, but also very thanckfull to them *that* shall gratify him in this his suite thus hoping *that* your ladyship will voutchsafe him some favour in this first petition *that* ever I motioned to your ladyship, I will cease to be more troublesome vnto you & will ever rest

Your ladyships ever to be  
commanded  
Richard Napeir  
Linford Ianuary the first  
1631

leaf 1 verso