
SUMMARY: The document below is a letter dating from after 20 August 1604 from William Fowler (1560/61–1612), Secretary to Queen Anne, to Sir Robert Cecil, created Viscount Cranborne on 20 August 1604, concerning ‘a gentleman’ servant of the 11-year-old Henry de Vere, 18th Earl of Oxford, who had inquired about a patent for Havering-atte-Bower. For William Fowler, see the *ODNB* article.

My most honourable Lord,

There hath been a gentleman of the Earl of Oxford’s very earnest with me to know the certainty of a patent passed lately of Havering le Bower. I would not without your Honour’s knowledge resolve him thereof that, conform to my steadfast desire to serve your Lordship, I may(?) be the more answerable to your Lordship’s directions. And thus expecting your Lordship’s pleasure,

I rest your Lordship’s truly affected to serve you,

W Fouor

Endorsed: To the right honourable my very good Lord, my Lord of Cranborne

Endorsed: Mr Fowler, the Queen’s Secretary, to my Lord