
SUMMARY: The document below is a letter dated 12 May 1606 from Oxford's son-in-law, William Stanley (1561 – 29 September 1642), 6th Earl of Derby, to Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, concerning the lawyer, 'Master Ireland', who had earlier been involved in the preparation of documents concerning the allowance and/or jointure to be provided by Derby for his wife, Oxford's daughter Elizabeth de Vere (see CP 44/63).

My very good Lord, at my last being at the court I was moved by Sir Roger Aston to be a suitor to your Lordship for your favour towards Mr Ireland the lawyer for his better advancement in some measure as occasion may serve.

I assure your Lordship his pains in my business hath deserved my best wishes, yet nevertheless I am to request your Lordship in regard of my estate and posterity that it would please you to will him to deliver all such writings and evidence as are in his hands or any others to his knowledge concerning my estate, which though already he make show to have done, is in part but not in all performed. But if he seem to excuse it, then that it would please your Lordship to be so plain with him therein that hereafter I need not to trouble your Lordship any further.

Thus commending my love to your Lordship and the duty of my children, who I thank God are all in health, I take my leave. Lathom, my house, this 12 of May 1606.

Your Lordship's loving nephew and ready friend to my power,

William Derby

Endorsed: To the right honourable my very good Lord and uncle, the Earl of Salisbury, one of the Lords of his Majesty's most honourable Privy Council and Knight of the noble Order of the Garter, give these

Endorsed: 12 May 1606, Earl of Derby to my Lord