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SUMMARY: The document below is a letter dated 9 November 1606 from Oxford's son-in-law, William Stanley (1561 – 29 September 1642), 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Derby, to Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, citing ill health as the reason for his non-attendance at Parliament.

My very good Lord, I have received your Lordship's letters, whereby I perceive your Lordship's kind favour towards me in procuring my stay at home, for the which I am to thank your Lordship for, and the rather because I have not had my health of late. And withal I am to entreat your Lordship that for my voice in Parliament, that it would please your Lordship to deliver it for me in my absence as in your wisdom you shall think meet.

Thus desiring your Lordship to excuse me to his Majesty, I commit you to Almighty God, always resting,

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

William Derby

Lathom, this 9<sup>th</sup> of November 1606

Endorsed: For his Majesty's affairs. To the right honourable my very good Lord the Earl of Salisbury, one of the Lords of his Majesty's most honourable Privy Council, these.

Postal endorsement: Chester, this 11<sup>th</sup> of November at 12 of the clock, John Francis, post at Chester

Endorsed: 1606, Earl of Derby to my Lord