

SUMMARY: The document below is an undated letter endorsed '1601', likely 1602 New Style, from Oxford's youngest daughter, Susan Vere (1587-1629), to her uncle, Sir Robert Cecil (1563-1612). At the time the letter was written, Susan Vere was likely still living with Bridget (nee Hussey), Dowager Countess of Bedford, at Chenies in Buckinghamshire. Susan Vere's sister, Bridget Vere (1584-1631), had also lived with the Dowager Countess at Chenies, and in April 1599 had married the Dowager Countess' grandson, Francis Norris (1579-1622), 2nd Baron Norris of Rycote and 1st Earl of Berkshire.

For the background to Susan Vere's letter, see the letter dated 3 February 1602 from the Dowager Countess of Bedford's daughter-in-law, Dorothy (nee Clerke) Morison, to Sir Robert Cecil, CP 85/8.

Right honourable my very good uncle, now give me leave to presume to write these lines in grief for fear of your hard opinion of me. I hear by my brother Norris that there is some speeches given out, which I am very sorry that you should have such a hard conceit of me, which I protest, as I have any truth in me, I will never match with any without your consent. I desire nothing so much than to have the truth to be known in this matter, and then I trust you would be satisfied.

I know not what to say or do, but remain in sorrow for the speeches that many will speak of, but I hope you will not give credit unto them. I beseech you to think so much as my heart doth vow to you, that I will never see nor hear of any in that sort but such as shall be appointed by you. So I humbly take my leave.

Your obedient niece,

Susanna Veare

Endorsed: To the right honourable and my very good uncle, Sir Robert Cecil, knight, Principal Secretary to her Majesty

Endorsed: 1601 [=1602?], Lady Susan Vere to my master