
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) Morison Manners Russell, 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 Clerke Long Morison (d.1618), to Sir Robert Cecil, CP 85/8.

For Dorothy Clerke Long Morison (d.1618), see the will of her mother, Elizabeth Ramsey Clerke Alford, TNA PROB 11/92/437; the will of her first husband, Henry Long (d. 15 April 1573), TNA PROB 11/55/169; and the will of her second husband Sir Charles Morison (1549 - 31 March 1599), TNA PROB 11/94/168.

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