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SUMMARY: The document below is a letter dated 18 July 1611(?), from Henry de Vere, 18<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, thanking Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, for a kindness done. It seems likely the young Earl's outpouring of gratitude was an acknowledgement of Cecil's assistance in having his annuity of £200 paid directly to him 'although he be under years', rather than to his mother, Elizabeth (nee Trentham) de Vere, Countess of Oxford (see TNA SP 38/10).

July 18

Whatsoever I can say to you, my Lord, is short of the sense I have of the kindness you have done me. Acknowledgement is so due to you that you are sure of it at the rate of a whole life, & I wish, if it could be without your disadvantage, that it were ever in [-in] my power to let you see how I would return your favour. In the meantime, my Lord, make account of me as one that is passionately

Your faithful humble servant, Oxford.

Endorsed: For the right honourable Earl of Salisbury at his house at Hatfield.