

SUMMARY: The document below is a letter dated 19 July 1594 from Lord Burghley to Sir Robert Cecil (1563-1612) requesting that the next time he visits London privately, he bring Oxford's daughter, Elizabeth Vere (1575-1627), with him.

The christening mentioned in the letter was that of King James' eldest son. From the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, available online:

*Henry Frederick, prince of Wales (1594–1612), was born early on 19 February 1594 at Stirling Castle. He was the eldest child of [King James VI of Scotland \(1566–1625\)](#) and [Anne \(1574–1619\)](#), second daughter of Frederick II, king of Denmark, and Sophia, and older sister of Christian IV. Although Henry's birth was celebrated immediately in Scotland, his baptism awaited the arrival of the earl of Sussex, proxy of Queen Elizabeth, the child's sole godparent. The ceremony finally took place on 30 August 1594 in the Chapel Royal at Stirling Castle.*

By Mr Bowes' letters it appeareth that the ambassadors for Denmark and for others in Germany are arrived in Scotland for the celebration of the christening, but yet Mr Bowes writeth not at what day it shall be.

I send you a letter of Mr Dalton's whereby you may see what he saith to defend his report to the alderman. Truly, it had been best for myself if the same had been true, and I see no other course in my natural operations but that a second report may be shortly true.

I am sorry to hear it blabbed abroad that the journey intended for Brest shall not take place, and if better provision be not made than I can hear of for shipping to be taken up to pass to Portsmouth for embarking the soldiers, nor yet for victualing of the whole army, I see not but both the time of the year and prevention of the enemy at Brest will frustrate the whole. I wish the sun might stay 14 days longer, for as is it now in course(?), the sun will be in Virgo before our ships can be on their voyage, and yet somewhat must be always in great matters attempted, for with no attempt, no profit can follow, but sometimes great loss. I write to you rashly, and therefore you may use this my opinion temperately as you shall perceive it may not be offensively taken.

The next time you shall come privately hither, I pray you bring my Lady Vere with you. From my house in Westminster, the 19 of July 1594.

Your loving father,

W. Burghley

Endorsed: (1) To my son, Sir Robert Cecil, knight, at Greenwich; (2) 19 Iulij 1594, Lord Treasurer to my Master.