A semi-diplomatic edition of the letters of Anthony Bagot (1558-1622) at the Folger Shakespeare Library

Edited by Kristen Deiter, Rebecca Fall, Meghan Davis Mercer, Miranda Nesler, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Susan Stafinbil, J. Case Tompkins

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Introduction
This edition consists of eleven letters from Anthony Bagot to his family between 1576-1594 and one letter to Anthony’s father, Richard, from Robert Devereux, 2nd earl of Essex. Beginning with Anthony’s letters during his studies at Oxford, the texts span nearly twenty years, spread across two continents, and follow Anthony’s involvement as a member of Essex’s household. This collection provides invaluable insight into the Bagots’ political and daily lives. From studying rhetoric with his tutor (L.a.36), to giving the inside scoop about the magnificent tilt arranged at court for the French ambassador (L.a.37), to overseeing Essex’s household when the earl suddenly leaves for Plymouth (L.a.40), to visiting the French king at Attichy (L.a.43), Anthony provides a glimpse into the lives of the friends and members of the Bagot family, one of the oldest in Staffordshire. As the sheriff, deputy lieutenant, and justice of the peace, Anthony’s father Richard had personal connections to a number of prominent figures in Blithfield; a number of these letters concern the falling out and reconciliation amongst them as negotiated by Anthony and Essex. This series of letters proves useful not only to Essex scholars looking for details about the earl’s interactions with Queen Elizabeth and rise to favor, but also to those interested in the personal and political dealings of a prosperous family involved in local affairs.

Editorial Note
This edition intends to guide beginning students and researchers of paleography or material history through an investigation of sixteenth century manuscript correspondence. Because this text serves as a supplement to reading the original letters held at the Folger Shakespeare Library (Folger MSS L.a.36-46; L.a.473), the editors have made every effort to replicate the texts of these material objects, maintaining original orthography, lineation, and interlinear insertions. However, because we wish to encourage readers to consult facsimile reproductions or the

manuscripts themselves, this edition does not aim to provide a perfectly diplomatic representation of the materials; moreover, in the interest of presenting a text legible to students who are new to this field of study, the editors have expanded all abbreviations, with the exception of signatures and abbreviations that would be recognizable to a modern audience, such as “Mr” or “Mrs” for “Master” and “Mistress” when they precede a surname.

We have followed the standard conventions of semi-diplomatic transcription. Expanded abbreviations are indicated by italic type, and superscript abbreviations have been silently lowered. Non-italicized type in square brackets denotes letters or words supplied when the manuscript text is obliterated or missing as a result of damage or other material corruption. Editorial interventions and notes are indicated by italicized type in square brackets.

Each letter is identified by its Folger call number and a brief title, to guide readers back to the original and/or digital copy in order to encourage comparison. A headnote provides a brief physical description of the type of letter packet and other details, as well as a link to the digital image (to view the entire series from a single link, go to http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/8xm1j3). The textual components of the letters have been categorized by the following subheadings: “superscription” indicates the recipient’s address written on the “address leaf,” “letter” indicates the text of the letter itself, and “endorsement” denotes filing notes added to the address leaf by the recipient or other person after the letter has been folded for filing. We were uncertain of two words, highlighted in yellow (see L.a.44).

Further context is available by consulting the Hamnet record for the collection (http://shakespeare.folger.edu/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?BBID=230544), and by consulting the front matter to the finding aid for the Bagot Family Papers (http://findingaids.folger.edu/dfobagot.xml), which also includes links to digital images of each item in the collection.

**Description of hand and scribal habits**

Between 1576 and 1591, Anthony Bagot writes in a consistent and fairly standard secretary hand with few idiosyncrasies. Throughout this period of roughly fifteen years, his hand loosens and becomes somewhat more fluid, and he changes several habits: his miniscule a’s develop a distinctive (but not unusual) initial flourish; for words beginning in a miniscule c, he starts to use a secretary c instead of a shortened majuscule C; and he decreases his use of a terminal, elaborate epsilon r which is more typically used in superscript by other writers of the period. In 1591, following a trip to the continent, Bagot switches to a more italicized hand that retains the right-angle c’s and two-stroke e’s of a secretary script (see L.a.43). Similar to his secretary hand, this new hand relaxes slightly and becomes more cursive over time, and he begins to lengthen his long s’s and f’s with a bit of panache. When writing in Latin, Bagot adopts a slightly italic roman hand. He occasionally uses the word “they” instead of “the.”
superscription
To the ryght worshipfull
& his singuler good mother
Mistres Bagott at blythfeeld
yeve these. /

ffrom Oxon

letter
I haue receaved yours letters (deare mother) the eight of this instant
by ffryereson. the readinge of which so muche delughted me, that as I haue
to thanke you for your loue, my sisters for theyre curtesye, & the rest of
our freindes for theyre good rememberaunce of vs, so are we no lesse
bounde by your gentlenesse to be readey to recompence & answære your
so greate goode Will then nature constreanethe vs to yelde & offer oure
sealues towarde our ffather & you lovinge mother, bothe hartye to begge,
of god, a longe & luckye contynuaunce of your healthe. & humblye to craue
the contynuall vse of youre daylye daylye daylye daylye desyeredy blessedines. Neyther am I so
gladde to receaue your tokens, allthoughe the be hartlye welcome, as I reioyse
of the care you haue of me, to procede in studye, theirebbye to proficte my
selfe, and answære the promysse you haue made on my behaulfe, to my
ffather, wiche god willinge & lendinge me, the grace I hope & praye for,
shall not be broken; sythe I haue so good a mother in procuringe hit.
so lovinge a freinde as the right worshipfulle freinde, doctor Bickley\(^2\) in
furtheringe hit. And so willinge a tutor to healpe hit whose paynes
I trust shall turne to my profyte. And haviinge so good comfortes I pro=
mysses you, that as will dothe not want, so labor shall not lacke in me
to obstayne the same, but for that you desyer to knowe the charges my
ffather & you are at withe vs, & what excersyes we vsse, these are to
certyfyve you that for our bo-o-rde you paye iijs iiiijd a wekee. & our excer=
syes in the morninge is to studye Rhetoricke, leavinge the after noone
to lodgicke & hystories. On saterdayes & sundayes we reade a peace
of Mr Nowelles Catechisme, wherein I trust we shall so profyte
as shall be to your desyer & our owne furtherance, as god best
knowethe, to whome I leave you./

\(^2\) Thomas Bickley (1518-1596), bishop of Chichester.
By youre most obedyent sonne
Anthony bagott.
superscription
To the right Worshippfull
& his singuler good father
Mr Bagott esquier at Blythfield
gieve these

letter
As duty Constrayneth me I am to let yow vnderstand as neare as I Can when my Lord meayneth to take his iorny towards Cambridge: the which at this present he is determyned to take the fourthe of this monethe. The Cause of his tarryinge so longe at the Courte was to see the comminge of one Cassamyere a ffrench Imbassator, whome (the Quenes grace) dothe greatly esteeme,/ ffor this first of ffebruary there was suche a shewe of Noble men, & gentlemen in the Tylt yarde at whitte Hall, as the lyke (by euery mans report) hathe not been seene this fforty yeares. ffurther to troble yow herein I thinke it is needlesse for the bearer hearof mr Hocleton can Certyfye you./ And thus in hast, I Committ yow to god whoe euer defend yow & all yours./ ffrom London the second of ffebruary 1578.

Your humble & obedyent sonne.

Anth: Bagott

[The] assyses begyn at Woolnor Hampton
the xjth of marche.

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3 John Casimir, John, duke of Saxe-Coburg (1564-1633).
Right worshipfull & good father, I receaved your letters, wherin I easilie perceau, & gather the ffartherly & daylye Care yow haue vppon me, for thapplyinge of my studye, and thimployinge of my sealf, to please my Tutor, whiche bothe heatherto, I trust I haue done, and / by the grace of god/ hearafter (as yow shall perceau) I meane to doe. / Alalso at Convenyent tymes, accordinge to your pleasure, I weate vppon my Lord that is allmost euery daye, eyther at after dynner, or els, at after supper, and vppon hollydayes all the daye longe, whiche lyketh his Lordshipp very well. I am allmost euery other daye, eyther at Dinner, or supper with his honour, for he will not suffer me to depart from him, vntill neene of the Clocke. / Thus hauinge so fitt a messinger as this, one mr Buckley, a mr of art of magdalen Colledge, a very frien of my Tutor es, I Can^ not (as in your lettres yow did Commaunde me) but wryte to my frendes. / And nowe Cravinge your daylye blessinge, I Cease to troble you, Committinge yow to the tuicion of allmightye god this xjth of Aprill 1579

Your sonne most willinge to obeaye your Commaundementes.

Anth. Bagott . /
My very good father, I purposed before this you should have hard from me, but this bearer my fellowe mr James Litleton is the first meassenger I could knowe of. my Lord his pleasure is I shaull attend for he toule me with his owne mouth he looketh to be mr of the horse with in this x. days, It hath been moved to the Queene, and she can be very well content, but shee sayth she hath no higher a place for my Lord of Leicester\(^4\) And he telleth my Lord he craveth nothinge but only lycence he may resyne his place to my Lord he hath allso toule my Lord what the offyce is, and what it is worth xv\(^C\) [1500] powndes yearly besydes the keepinge of his owne horses, and his Table, thus much vpon maye daye my Lord toule me alone. / Now for her maiesties favor & singular cowntnaunce, & exceedinge good wordes mr Lidleton, at your meetinge can satisfye yow. when she is abroade no boddy neere her, but my Lord of Essex and at night my Lord is at cardes or one game or an other with her that he commeth not to his owne Lodginge tyll birdes singe in the morninge. Sir Walter Rawleigh he is the hated man of the wourld in court, Ctye, & cownty, whear the court is now at Non such my Lord hath his lodginge, at the next remove I know not howe it wille, and in all thease matters mr Lidleton can at large discource. / my sute for Wyntons farme can not be for my master his father in Lawe hath made a great purchase in yorkeshire, and is not fully able to go thorowe so that my Lord thinkes Bodnam shalbe on sale, but shortly I will haue somwhat, yet in the meane tyme if yow healpe not, I of necessyty shall runne in some debt / mr Trew is hear, and telleth me playnly he will not cease his sute, I know he hath delt with my Lord thearin, for my Lord asked me how it went

\(^4\) Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester (1532-88).
forwarde, which I answered, but all I can gather of
my Lord his speeches, is he maketh very good accoumpt
of him, and I feare will further him what he can./
Thus cravinge your dayly bleassinge & my good mothers
I humbly cease to troble yow further Warwicke
Inne this vjth of maye 1587

Your Humble & dutyfull sonne

Anth. Bagot
superscription
[To the] worshipfull my very good father
[Richard Bagot Esquire]
[at] Blythfelde with
speede

letter
My very good father, because I knowe that ill newes flyethe swifter then good I am to Certyfye yow the truth of such accydentes as haue happened; my Lord vpon thursdaye night last, with one Reynalls a gentleman of his Chamber and an other that kept his huntinge horses, betwixt v. & vj of the clocke tooke horse in St Iames parke, my Lord desyered my Lord Rich to staye in his Chamber & he woulde come to supper to him. But my Lord is gone to Plymoth and I feare away with the fleete to Portingale, for a post came to him that daye from Plymoth and from Excetor to Plimoth layde his post horses ready, Sir ffancis knowles his vncle, the next daye went post after him, with Lettres to staye him, but I feare he could not reach him, for my Lord was at Plymoth before saturdaye morninge when his vncle was not haulf waye; and he toule his man that kept his horses, and brought them backe agayne, that he woulde not staye twoo howres in Plymoth howsoeuer the wynde was, for if the wynde weare coutrary he woulde dragge out the Pynnasse that was left for him, and as we can learne the whole fleete went awaye on frydaye morninge; my Lord huntingdon vpon frydaye night went after him allso and howe they speede wee knowe not yet. But he that broughte backe the horses which carried my Lord 80 myles & 8. brought my Lord Riche a Lettre & they keyes of his deske, wherin thear was Lettres above forty of my Lord his owne hande wrytinge, to the Queene, the Cownsayle, and other of his

5 Robert Rich, Robert, first earl of Warwick (1559?-1619).
6 A pinnace of the small kind propelled by oars or a small sail used to carry cargo and crew between ships.
fryndes in Courte & his servauntes with resolutyon not to be
stayed by any Comaundment exceptinge death, for so much
I read my sealf in a Lettre to william ffowkes & w. Leighton, to
come after him with such speede as maye be to bringe such
necessaryes as thearin was contayned; but he neather
wrytt nor spake any worde of me; but referred all to
my Lord Ryche & Sir Phillip Buttler and so I am appoyned
to wayte & keepe my Lord his Lodginge & his table tyll I
be comaunded the contrary./ And thus in hast tyll I
haue an other meassenger humbly cravinge your dayly
bleassinge & my good mothers I take my leaue./
Courte whyte hall 8 April 1589
Your most obedyent sonne
Anth Bagot

postscript written vertically down left margin
My Lady Burleighe dyed on frydaye morninge, my Lord Threasurer7 very sicke of the gowte
Secretary Waullingsham not well and Sir Walter Myldmaye very sycke.

endorsement
Anthony Bagot Lettres of my Lord
his masters departure from the
Court towards plymowthe

7 William Cecil, first Baron Burghley (1520/21-1598).
superscription
To the worshipp/ull my very
good ffather mr Richard
Bagot Esquire.

letter
My very good ffather, I receaved your Lettres by mr merry, and the next
morninge I delvered your extractes into thexcheuers, Baron Sotherton
sayd they came very late, I delvered them first to Sir Edward Lyttletons
handes & receaved them agayne, because I was sworne they weare
as I receaved them from the Commyssyoners handes mr Litleton, &
Mr Devereux vse me very famylyarly, which I must needes requyte, yet
I will trust them neuer the more, Sir Edward Litleton toulde me thear was neuer
any discurtesye went so neere his hart as that he receaved
from yow, whome he sayde he allwayes loved so well, which he sayde he
would not rehearse, because mr Edward Aston, at mr Gryvylls request,
hath vnventaken to end all matters betwixt yow toow, these are theare
wordes but I knowe my Lord is the Origynall for he toulde Sir Edward Litleton
he would haue no fallinge out betwixt yow, for yow shoulde be frendes.
So mr Aston spake with me and toulde me mr Gryvyll had been very
earnest with him to end all matters of discurtesy betwixt yow, which
he sayde he was most wyllinge to do, if he thought yow weare willinge
to it, otherwyse he sayde he would not do any thinge to injure yow,
for he sayde his father did bequeave him to yow and he respectes your
fryndshippe more then me very famylyarly, which my Lord hath promysed to performe.
Mistress Devereux would fayne be Ladyed, but my Lord is discontented at
her comminge vpp, so wheather he shalbe Sir George or not Sub judice
lis est. / I haue not yet delvered your Lettres to Lynnihalls because he
is at Richmond with the howshould, and her maiestie at Somersett howse
but I will do shortly & do not doubt but to perswade him to put the
matter to yow./ Raffe Edges matter is not yet harde, Doctor Dayle
was kyllyvettes great frend and was not at leasure to sytt as yet

8 John Sotherton, baron of the exchequer (d. 1605).
9 Valentine Dale (ca. 1520-1589).
and mr Pattyn sayes nowe he thinkes he is Subamner\textsuperscript{10} in hell, for he dyed sodenly the xvijth of November. / I delyvered your Lettres to my vnCLE Okeover who I am sure will do the best he can to provyde yow of fish, but he sayes the best is gone & it is the worst tyme of the yeare for such provysyon; theare was yeasterdaye 6. or 7. howses burnt on fishe streete hill the occasyon, a mayde sittinge vppe in the night to starche her mystresses fyne ruffes agaynst morninge. / Thus for this tyme most humbly cravinge your dayly bleassinge & my good mothers with my dutyfull prayers I take my leaue./ My brother Seriant maior\textsuperscript{11} hath toulde mr Secretary Wallsingham that he hath hundrethes of powndes of yow or ells he could not haue shewed his face in the Country, who sayes yf yow neede him or any of yoys, yow shall knowe what he will do for them s that fremd any follower of his./ London 22 November

Your humble & dutyfull sonne. 1589

Anth Bagott

\textit{endorsement}

Anthony Bagot Lettres 1589

\textsuperscript{10} Sub-almoner.

\textsuperscript{11} Serjeant-major.
superscription
To the worshipp/full my very
good ffather Mr Richard
Bagot Esquire at
Blithefield.

contemporary note on back of packet
The Basket & Topnett Doe
wayghe 89-90¹ - lxxxx¹

letter
My very good ffather, I spake to my brother Wyllson to healpe
me to buye 2 Armors you wrytt for, and he hath
bestowed a cupple of excellent good ones of yow of his
owne store. yow shall receave them by this Carryer
Cotten of Stone, who Roger Skarrett did assoure mee
would honestly delyver them. / yow shall receaue 2 payre
of Curattes, 2 payre of powldrons, 2 payre of vambraces,
2 Collors, 2 very good Caskes,¹² & 2 gawntlettes for playne
Armors no man can haue better, thone fyttes me as if it
had been made for me. / I haue sent yow hearinclosed a lettre
which my oulde & sure frend /sent me with xxyt shillinges in
moneye, heare is no newes but yesterdaye & Thearle
of Warwick had one of his legges cut offe by the
knee for the disease thearle of Bedford had called the
gangrene. / Thus most humbly cravinge your dayly
bleassinge & my good mothers all beinge in good helth in
Warwicke lane & Lumbart streete, I humbly take my
leaue. London in some hast. vth ffeb ruary 1589

Your humble & dutyfull sonne

Anth Bagot

¹² Curattes: a cuirass, or armor covering the torso; powldrons: pauldrons, or armor covering the shoulder area;
vambraces: armor covering the forearm; Caskes: a casque, or helmet.
superscription
To the Worshippfull my very good
[fa]ther Mr Richard Bagot Esquire

letter
My very good Father, I wryt to you of our Iorney my Lord tooke to see
the King which fell out to be at the least an hundred englishe myles
from Deepe, my Lord not purposinge to tarry out above fyue dayes, which
causd vs to carry nothinge with vs more then of our barkes; we
founde the King in Campe at a litle vyllage called Atchy 3 leaages
beyand Compayne he vsed my Lord most kyndly & all vs that followed
hym, they weare togeather allmost 2 howers then my Lord went a longe
leage further to hys quarter to lodge, but before we weare haulf
an englishe myle the King with haulf a dosen gentlemen overtooke
the King vs & brought my Lord to hys lodginge & stayed with hym an howre
then my Lord returned with hym & brought hym to hys quarter, & the
next day dyed with the King which was Sunday thys daye fortnight, then
the King went with my Lord to Noion wheare they parted, the King gone to
meete they Garmaynes, & we returned towards Deepe: But
Vyleers the governour of Rhone was in our waye with a thowsande
horsse & fyfteene hundred foote, & we but one troope of horsse
so that we cros the Ryver of signe at a Towne called vernon
and so went to Pont large wheare we cros the Ryver agayne
& nowe are meat with our footemen, and the Barron Byron is marchyng
towards vs with the King hys Campe of whose comynge we shall do
somewhat; Thys iorney was so hard that it hathe discoryged
dyvers yonge souldyars: But all that you knowe are well & in hea' th
Thus tyll more newes most humbly cravynge your dayly blessing & my
good mothers I must needes end in hast. my sister Brough[ton]
hat many thankes for her haulf crownes At the runninge
Campe at Cally your 6 of September 91
betwixt Rhone & Deepe. your humble & dutyfull soonne.

13 Compiègne.
14 Pont-de-l’Arche.
Ant: Bagot
Folger Shakespeare Library MS L.a.44
Letter from Anthony Bagot, [France], to Richard Broughton, 1591? November 1

Good Brother, the first of this November 3. [...] they Enymey looked for vs we fewe englishe came to [...] which els had been burnt, we are set downe with as greate honor as ever so fewe men coulde, we contynued feight from eight in the morninge tyll fyve at night, by to morow at this tyme we hope to be intrenched, and then hope to abyde a better reconinge. yf you knowe any in England that desyre to fight perswade them heyther, and I will assure you they shalbe well intertayned for that matter, for theare are braue men in the Towne & so shewed them sealues, 2, of our knightes Sir Francis Allyn shot through the thygh Sir Matthew Morgan shot in the belly, but no daunger of death of neyther, we had 4 slayne, & above xx" shot, howe many of the Enymye we hurt is not knowne, we kylde 3. or 4 of they beast leaders we sawe, & dyvers we sawe le[...] We are lodged within musket shot of the Town [...]

Byron a good englishe myle of, they never tro[...] he them, they may be frendes for any thynge [...]
We expect the Kynges comminge within these [...]
haue beene longe in comminge, god send vs mor[e [...] & I trust we shall do well, we are now s[...] in all, horse & foote able to feight; I praye [...] lettre to my father, for leasure now wyll n[...] wryte. Mr Morley & your Iohn Mallard kn[...] wheare I thinke we (as many as lyve) shall [...] Chryssmas, (god saue the marke) hard by the Ga[...] They of the Towne stand vppon the walles & see vs
feight, and we yf we had any spare men maye place them vppon the Gallhowe hyll & they may looke of vs the fynest place eyther for Gamsters or standers by that ever I sawe. / I trust god wyll send me my health & I doubt not but I shall see some of my olde acquayntaunce in the Towne, Mr Reynoldes & I are all they offycers my Lord hath Mr Meyrick sycke at Deepe, but 4 of hys gard came with vs & 3 of them sycke, yt greeves me not to take any paynes because I am ioyned with so honest a man as my cos [...] Reynolldes secretory who commendes hym h[...] you & so I praye your partner do I. / I [...] [ych Brand?] Ant Bagot

endorsement
Anthony Bagotes Lettres
from Roane in Normandy
My very good Father, I am sory I cannot wryte that
newers which you & my mother desyre to heare which is
of my sisters health, for she contynueth stylly
very weake and sycke by fyttex, with contynuall payne
at her hart & stomacke, some dayes houldinge her
lyke an extreeme Ague, and some dayes better, keeping
no certayne tyme; her weaknesse is such that she
never tooke any physick, but plasters to her stomack
which haue done litle good; she is very sory that
my mother takethe it so ill; for she feareth not her
sealf./ Mr Meyrick is rydd into the country
about my Lord hys parkes that are graunted hym by her Maiestie
to make some money for my Lord is very desyerous to
take order for hys debtes, and now synce shrove
sondaye at 4 of the clocke (about which howre he was
swarne a pryvy Counsellor) hys lordship is become a newe
man cleane forsakinge all hys former youthfull trickes
carriinge hym sealf with very honorable gravyty and
singulerly lyked of both in parliament, and at Counsayle
table, both for hys speeches & iudgment./
I cannot yet by any meanes get my brother Broughton to the Audytor
one weecke he promysed me from daye to daye to go
which caused me to neglect waytinge; An other cause
my sister intreated me to tarry with her, for since
her sycknesse, she hath found no more kyndnes at
her partners handes & hys brothers then needes must. /
synce the Court came from Hampton I haue wayted
contynually, and now do at St Iameses./ Thus in hast
humbly cravinge yor dayly blessinge & our good
Mothers. I end in my sister Broughtons chamber
first of March 1592.

your humble & dutyfull sonne Ant Bagot
To the worshippfull my very good ffather  
Mr Richard Bagot  
Esquire. /

My very good ffather, I can yet by no meanes get my brother Broughton to fynde leasure to dispache with the Audytor; He saythe nowe, he must first heare from you that he maye haue somewhat to shew for your allowance and tyll you send him that he can do nothinge in it. / My sister (I thanke god) is now fully recovered./ Many Lordes dyned this daye with my Lord at Lecester howse, my Lord of shrewsbury\(^{15}\) was one and asked me for you, and spake the best wordes of you that ever I hard noble man speake of a gentleman, betwixt hym & me. Besydes, for my parte, I am moste bownd to Syr Thomas Gorge, who of hys owne accord spake to my Lord & Master in my behaulfe to be myndfull of hys ould servantes especyally me by name. My Ladye Marques hys Wyffe & he boath haue earnestly requested me to wryte to my Mother that she would bestowe x\(^{11}\) in stafford shire cloath and send it vpp and he wyll presently paye the money to me, my Lady would not haue any aboue ij\(^{8}\) the yard, some of xvij\(^{4}\) and some vnder as my Mother shall thyncke best: eyther of them maye do me a farre greater pleasure, and I knowe the money wyll presently be payde./ parliament newes I leaue to them of the howse, a swynginge subsidy I know you doubt not of. I am in some hope to get some money for they 2 poore mens bills though the Oxen neuer came to the Queenes vse. I haue taken your byll of Impost and sould it

\(^{15}\) Gilbert Talbot, seventh earl of Shrewsbury (1552-1616).
for xxxv° de claro. 

continued in left margin
Thus most humb[ll]y cravinge your dayly bleassinge & my good Mothers I humb[l]y crave pardon with remembraunce of all duty in hast of take my leaue warwick lane 13. March. 92./

Your humble & dutyfull sonne. Ant. Bagot

By this bearer I received tokens xijd from my mother. v° from sister Okeover./
superscription
To my assured good frend Mr Richard Bagot.

letter
Sir.

Being glad to do any thinge that might be for your sonnes good & preferment; I did latelye write my lettres vnto Mr Weston, & sollicited a mocion of mariage with Mistris Lowe, a kinswoman of his. The gentleman hath verye willinglye hearkened vnto it; and the gentlewoman well accepted of the mocion, & conceyveth well of your sonne. Yt remayneth that you deale fatherlye wihym for the better effectinge of this match to his good, which is nowe the principall pointe, wherevpon the conclusion resteth. If you shall add any thing to your good affection towards hym the rather for my sake: I will thinke my self exceedinglye beholdinge to yow; And for my part, as I do affect and wissh hym well, for his longe & honest services; so assure your self I will be readye to vse all good meanes that may be for his advauncement./ Thus I committ you to goddes good protection. from the Court the vjth of May 1594.

your louing Neighbour
and most assured frend
Essex

Mr Richard Bagot

endorsement
My Lord of Essex Lettres
in behalf of Anth Bagot