
Summary: In this letter written on 22 September 1572, Oxford requests Lord Burghley to obtain him an opportunity to serve abroad, preferably either at sea or on the sea-coast.

My Lord, I received your letters when I rather looked to have seen yourself here than to have heard from you. But sith it is so that your Lordship is otherwise affaired with the business of the commonwealth than to be disposed to recreate yourself and repose ye among your own, yet we do hope after this, you having had so great a care of the Queen's Majesty's service, you will begin to have some respect of your own health, and take a pleasure to dwell where you have taken pain to build. My wife (whom I thought should have taken her leave of you, if your Lordship had come, till you would have otherwise commanded) is departed unto the country this day. Myself, as fast as I can get me out of town, do follow. Where *by her Majesty I might* be any way employed, I am content and desirous *to do any service* whereby I may show myself dutiful to her. Otherwise, if it were *not for* that respect, I think there is more trouble than credit to be gotten in such governments. If there were any service to be done abroad, I had rather serve there than at home, where yet some honour were to be gotten. If there be any setting forth to sea, to which service I bear most affection, I shall desire your Lordship to give me and get me that favour and credit that I might make one. Which, if there be no such intention, then I shall be most willing to be employed on the sea-coasts, to be in a readiness with my countryman against any invasion. Thus recommending myself to your good Lordship, I commit you to God. From London, this 22nd of September.

By your Lordship's to command.
Edward Oxenford

Addressed: To the right honourable his singular good Lord, the Lord Burghley, and Lord Treasurer of England, give these at the court.

Endorsement: The Earl of Oxford. Desires his Lordship to procure him some employment in the Queen's service, but especially, which he chiefly bends to, at sea.