## Letter to Sir Robert Cecil<sup>1</sup>

Cecil Mss CP 99/139, Hatfield House, Hertfordshire

Right honourable: not having to offer unto you any thing worthy of you nor answerable to the many favours I received in times past from your honourable father and you I humbly beseech you, accept of this trifle and pardon my remissness heretofore in not doing that which became me and my boldness now in this unruly manner to offer myself to you. And so in all duty I humbly take my leave. From Beoley the 28th of April 1603.

Yours ever to be commanded Ralph Sheldon<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Son of Sir William Cecil; Secretary to Queen Elizabeth and then to King James I. For his biography see ODNB.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Calendared HMC Salisbury vol 15, p. 60.