

Letter to Sir Thomas Lake¹

TNA, SP 14/70, f.151 CSPD 1611-18, p. 149, no.75

Jhesu

Sir, I was made acquainted by Edward Sheldon with your desire to be informed what lands woods and waste The Kings Majestie hath in the [- ms del] forest of Feckenham And in the Chase of Malvern in the said Chase. His Majesty hath no lands or waste nor woods, only a liberty for the ground the soil being the Lords of the manors within the said Chase and their freeholders there inhabiting. This matter remaineth of record by Busby of divers suits in her Majesty's time only one in the Lord Treasurer Buckhurst's time, by whom there was advice made reserving and confirming the same. For the forest of Feckenham the King's Majesty hath the waste grounds and woods which did belong unto the manor of Feckenham. This manor came to the Crown by the attainder of Francis Throckmorton and after was granted and given unto Sir Thomas Leighton by the Queen with reserving of the waste grounds and woods. The said woods have been lately sold and the waste lieth convenient unto all the commoners. In this I will endeavour to be more particularly and so more duly informed and accordingly advertise you. But I fear little improvement may be made of anything belonging to the Crown though in this, or any other, you have the power to command me.

And so with my very hearty commendations I take my leave from Weston the 25th of September 1612

Your most assured
Raff Sheldon

Verso : To the right Worshipful my especiall good friend Sir Thomas Lake Knight

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¹ Former Clerk of the Signet, later travelling secretary to King James, biography in Thrush & Ferris, *House of Commons*.