Letter from Edward Alleyn to his wife Joan, ‘his good sweet mouse’, c. July 24, 1593


Transcribed by Prof. Grace Ioppolo
Emanuell

My good sweete mouse I commend me hartely to yo\textsuperscript{u} And to my father my mother & my sister bess hoping in god thought the sicknes beround about you yett by his mercy itt may escape yo\textsuperscript{e} house w\textsuperscript{th} by y\textsuperscript{e} grace of god it shall therefor vse this corse kepe yo\textsuperscript{e} house fayr and clean w\textsuperscript{th} I knowe you will and every evening throwe water before yo\textsuperscript{e} dore and in yo\textsuperscript{e} bake sid and have in yo\textsuperscript{e} windowes good store of rwe and herbe of grace and w\textsuperscript{th} all the grace of god w\textsuperscript{th} must be obtaynd by prayers and so doinge no dout but y\textsuperscript{e} Lord will mercyfully defend yo\textsuperscript{u}: now good mouse I have no newse to send you but this thatt we have all ou\textsuperscript{e} helth, for w\textsuperscript{th} the Lord be praysed I reserved yo\textsuperscript{e} Letter att Bristo by richard couley for the wich I thank you I haue sent you by this berer, Thomas popes kinsman my whit wastcote because it is a trobell to me to cary it. reseaev it w\textsuperscript{t} this Letter And Lay it vpp for me till I com if you send any mor Letters send to me\textsuperscript{3} by the cariers of Shrowsbery, or to west chester, or to york, to be Kept till my Lord stranges players com and thus sweett hart w\textsuperscript{t} my harty commendations to all o\textsuperscript{e} frends, I sett from bristo this wensday after saynt James his day being redy to begin the playe\textsuperscript{4} of harry of cornwall mouse do my harty commendations to mr grigs his wife and all this household and to my sister phillys.

Yor Loving husband, E Alleyn.

mouse you send me no newees of any things houshould send of yo\textsuperscript{e} domesticall matters such things as happens att home as how yo\textsuperscript{e}\

\textsuperscript{1} i.e., Emmanuel (‘God is with us’, Hebrew)\textsuperscript{2} changed from another letter, probably r.\textsuperscript{3} o on to altered from another letter; me interlined with a caret.\textsuperscript{4} y altered from another letter.
distilled watter proves or this or that or any thing what you will

[addition in left margin]

And Jug I pray yoū Lett my orayng tawny stokines of woolen be dyed a very good blak against I com hom to weare in the winter yoū sent to me nott word of my garden but next tym you will but remember this in any⁵ case that all that bed w⁵th was parsley in the month of September you sowe Itt w¹ spinage For then is the tym I would do it myself but we shall nott com home till allholand tyd and so swett mouse farwell and so brake ou’ Long Jorney w¹ patience

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⁵ a altered from another letter, probably n
[blank]
This be delyvered
to m' hinslo on of the
gromes of hir majesty
chamber dwelling⁶
on the bank sid
right over against
the clink

⁶ w altered from another letter, probably o