

Montague Hall
Walter Place
Somerset

Thursday 29th Jan 1539

Thomas Cromwell
King Henry VIII's chief advisor
Hampton Court, East Molesey.

Dearest Lord Cromwell,

I am writing to you at the demand of my uncle Lord Carew, who wishes for me to present myself to the honourable King Henry VIII for the position of page in his royal court. Lord Carew believes that it will be a beneficial opportunity for me to learn how to serve the King with loyalty and honour. I would be thankful for the chance to tell you all the important reasons as to why I would be capable for this role.

Under the guidance of Lord and Lady Carew, I have been trained in the expectations and conduct of a nobleman and can demonstrate the behaviours required of me in the royal court. I come from a large estate and have experience of managing many staff, so I am able to follow strict instructions and complete tasks efficiently.

I am a strong young man who is capable of learning and mastering multiple skills such as swimming, fencing, tennis and more. Additionally, I am an experienced horse rider and consider myself a healthy, robust young man.

I have recently dealt with a family tragedy so I believe that I have the power to manage pressure and demonstrate mental strength in times of difficulty. Additionally under the supervision of Lord and Lady Carew, I have been taught how to behave like a nobleman and I am proud to say that I am well-educated.

I understand the role of a page requires great loyalty and trust and if I am chosen I will be sure to assist his majesty with the utmost respect. Furthermore, I endeavour to work tirelessly and diligently to demonstrate my obedience and devotion to his Royal Highness.

I respectfully thank you for taking your precious time to consider my application. Knowing the power and respect you command I know you will make the right decision and benefit the whole court by selecting me. I am confident that I can trust you with this important decision.

Your most humble servant,
William Caraw.