Walter Rawleigh his tro
to the King after his condemnation.

SO life which I had (most mighty Prince)
the Lawe hath taken from mee, and I am
more but the same dust of which I was
made, if my offence had anie proportion
with your Ma.ties mercie, I might not despaire,
or if my disbeliefe had anie quantitie
w.th your Mat. immeasurable goodnes, I
might hope, but it is your great Ma.tie
that must judge of both, not I: neane
blood, gentilitie or estate I have none
nor not so much as a being or a
bare title thereof, nor not so much
as Vitam Plantæ, I have onely a penitent
Soule in a bodie of Earth which moveth
towards the Loadstone of death and cannot
bee withheld from touching it, except
your Mat. mercie turne the pointe towards
mee which appalleth it, lest I am for
hearing of a vaine man, for fearing onely
and not beleeving nor accepting, and
so little thrompt I made of that speech
of his (which was my condemnation) as
the living God knoweth, I was remembred
anie such thing untill it was at my
tryall.

tryall cheerted against mee, so did how
ever my care that cared to make him
good, which I see no care of man can
effect but God, for my offence to him hath
layd this heavie burthen upon mee, mi-
serable and unfortunate creature that I
am / And God knowes (with whome I may
not more dissemble) that I have honoured
your Ma.tie by fame, and loved & admyred
you by knowledge, see as whether I dye
or live, your Ma.tie true and loving servant
I will live or dye / If I were rewrite
what doth not become mee (most mighty
Prince) were safe to attribe it to the
counsell of a good Heart, and to a mynd
which sorrow hath broken, but the more
my misserie is, the more is your Ma.tie
mercie if you please to beeld it, And
the losse I have deserved the more liberall
is your Ma.tie gyft. God onely your Ma.tie
shall imitate herein both in giving freely
and in giving to shew a one, from whome
there can bee no retribution but a desire
to pay, anyone a lost life with the same
great goodnes you shall please to
bestow it / This being the first tro
that ever your Ma.tie received from a
dead man, I humbly submitt my selfe
to the