

NA (PRO) SP 63/81/36/1
Earl of Ormond to Grey, 13 March 1580/1

Endorsement

Copie of my Lord of
Ormond's *lettre**
to the Lord Deputie
.13. March. 1580

Text

My very good Lord I have thought good to lett your Lordship vnderstand that since the dispatch of my *seruaunt* Iohn Daniell *with* my *lettres* to you Barry Roe brother to Davie Barry playd the gentleman *with* me in taking away some of my horses that were at Sesse in his Countrey (*which* I have recovered from him). vpon this I marched *with* such forces as I had *with* me to Carbry towardses his countrey and missing him self have warded his castles for her *Maiestie* and after returned to Corke bringing *with* mee Sir Owen Macharty *with* all *the* chieftest freeholderes of his countrey to putt in assuraunce for their loialtie and to doe *service* against *the* Rebelles, the rather for *that* his Nephew fynin Machartie was held to bee a doubtfull man, I sent also for all *the* Galloglas beyond the leape in Carbrie and vpon their coming to me have taken their othe for their duetifull behaveour and meane to employ *them* in her *maiesties* service. This day by thadvise of the councell of this province of Mounster yt hath bene thought good and concluded that David Barrie should be sent for to bee talked *with*, and to vnderstand *the* cause of *the* breaking of his castles and the gathering of such forces as he had about him, Who was content to come to me here, having Sir George Bowchier, the Sherief Sir Cormock, and Richard Shee for the assuraunce of his safe retourne at his *pleasure* and being in *that* maner brought in, he seemed to make his quarrell for *that* he said *Commissions* were procured by Sir Warham and Capten Rawley for *the* apprehending & killing of him self and warding of his fatheres houses, as formerly I have written to your Lordship by my man Daniell, and for *that* being refused proteccion by me he had no assuraunce of his life since the tyme of Sir William Pelhams *gouernement*, who gave him proteccion *with* promis of pardon and in respect of

the premisses stood at his keeping. Considering the weaken{es}*
of the bandes that are here to serve vnder mee and that I have
determined to bend my forces in one way intending to meet
with the principall Traitoures shortly god willing I have

35

given him my word and assuraunce not to harme him
nor his till your Lordships pleasure bee knowen farther touching
him, with condicion that he shall keepe her Maiesties peace, and
that vpon ij or iij daies warning given him by your Lordship or
my self, his assuraunce to bee voide, And being requested
by mee to serve her maiestie against the Rebelles during his
being vpon my word, would not promis the same, seing
he would not purchase him self enemies, before his pardon
were graunted him; which being graunted he said he would
putt in pledges for his loialtie and doe the best service
he could. I pray your Lordship lett me vnderstand your pleasure
herein with speed / This day I received advertizement
that the traitour Sir Iohn of Desmond and the Brownes
of the county of limerick came to take the pray of the towne
of kilmallock and having taken some cattell, a fewe
horsemen with some footemen of the garrizon there pursued
them, reskued the pray and presently slewe Thomas
Browne, with one or ij other Horsemen, wounded Vlick
Browne very sore, who is said to bee dead since and
took iij horses from them. So having no farther
matter to wryte for this tyme I committ your Lordship to
the guyding of Almighty god. Corke xiiij^o March 1580

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Your good Lordships as assured to commaund
as any may bee, /
Thomas Ormonde ossory

60

Copia Vera
Edmund Spenser

Note on hands

The text of this copied letter is in Spenser's regular secretary hand. Spenser has also certified the letter at the foot of the page with his usual 'Copia Vera' and signature. The letter's single endorsement is apparently a composite: the first two lines ('Copie of my L. of Ormond's lettres') are in Spenser's usual mixed hand, while the final lines ('to the Lord Deputie' and the date) are in a later mixed hand.

* **Endorsement lettre•]** The scribe who added the last two lines of this endorsement seems to have corrected Spenser's note, deleting an original 's'. If there were originally two Ormond letters contained in this enclosure, the second was apparently lost or removed at a very early stage in the archiving of this document.

* **33 weaken{es}]** Damage to the manuscript here has cropped the final letters off this word; the word itself is clear enough from context, and the spelling adapted from instances in others of Spenser's letters.

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