NA (PRO) SP 63/83/6/3

Copy of Grey to Ormond and the Council of Munster, 10 May 1581

Text and Endorsement

After our right hartie commendacions to your Lordship we haue	
sene a lettre written from your Lordship and the rest of the	
Counsell in that Province, concerning a peticion therinclosed	
exhibited by the Countesse of Desmonde in the behalf	
of her self and others: Whervnto yow desyre the	5
resolucion of me the Lord Deputie: And because the	
substaunce of her peticion is no more then heretofore	
she hath presented vnto Sir William Pelham, we must	
make that peremptorie aunswere, that he (by her	
Maiesties direction in writinge which some of vs have	10
sene) gave vnto her at Asketon, namely that her	
Maiestie wold not allowe of her repaire into England,	
nor by any means suffer it in her, who (as your Lordship	
knoweth willfully fell from her protection, and ever	
since hath furdered the action as farre as any other	15
of the conspiratours. Since which resolucion of her Maiestie	
the treason of bringing in of straungers into this	
Realme by the practize of her husband, and by all	
coniecture much furdered by her, hath in all resonable	
opinion so aggravated, her former offences, as we see lesse	20
cause nowe then before, to graunt a matter so offensive	
to her highnes. Besydes if her protection to come	
and goe saffe to your Lordship and the rest; when this	
peticion was exhibited, hath brought forth no other	
fruite then desire to be licensed to goe into England	25
(which might aswell have ben conceived by a pece of paper	
or any sleight messenger, as by her self) we cannot	
but wonder that she was suffred to have accesse vnto	
the Counsell; especially for conference sake; a terme	
of suche arrogancie as cannot be borne vnlesse that it	30
had fallen out vppon her speche, (which appereth not	
vnto vs) that her Maiesties service might haue bene	
furdered by it. wherof we wolde be glad to be furder	
aduertised from your Lordship And if no suche thinge haue	
succeded, then we see no cause why she sholde hope	35

of fauor vpon so arrogant a peticion made without submission or confession of her husbandes horrible

treasons and her owne. / And therfore till we may vnderstande what she hath vttered that may tend to her Maiesties service and the quiett of the Province 40 promysed in bill, we thinke it not mete (the cause standing as it doth that she or her sister or her Daughters, or any her dependauntes be privyledged without speciall direction from her Maiestie, which we suppose cannot growe without better ground whereon to 45 grafft mercie & comiseracion then is yet apparaunt, which we have thought good to signifye to your Lordship lest your word or promisse sholde be any way violate or not kept as it ought to be in all pointes: And lastly we doe wyshe that when your Lordship and the Counsell 50 there doe desyre our resolucions from hence, that you wolde signifie your owne opinions touchinge the cases yow write of wherby we might gather from your knowledge, as eye wittnesses, what were most expedient for the service for vs to resolve vpon. 55 And so we committ your Lordship to God Dublin xth may 1581.

Copie of my Lord Deputies lettre & Counce{ll} answering to the Lord Generall and Councell of Mounster.

Note on hands

The text of the letter is in the same neat and regular secretary hand as that appearing in 63/83/6/1 and /2; the concluding endorsement is in Spenser's mixed hand (not noted by Petti). This enclosure, alone of the three in this series, has not been certified.

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