

NA (PRO) SP 63/84/12
Grey to the Privy Council, July 1581

Address and Endorsement

To the Right Honorable the **Lords** and others of her **Maiesties** {p}rivie Councell. /*

1581 **Lordes**
Iuly .10.
receiued 15.
From **the Lord Deputy** of Ireland
my **Lords**. /

Text

It may please your **Lordships** as in my laste **lettres** of the viijth of Iune, I gaue your **Lordships** some reconing of the Successe of my iorney, till that day, So now I thincke to proceede in the same cours, to lett you vnderstande the rest **whiche** hathe fallen out in my retorne towerdes this cyttie: The ixth of Iune, I **departed** from Wexforde, towerdes Rosse, and came thether the xjth day, leauing my campe, vppon the skirtes of the baronye of Simolins, a countrey possessed by Oceon **mac Caier** Cauenaughe a confederate **with** the rest in this rebellion, thoughe not so malitious, as other of his surname, who as soone as he hearde of my approching that waye repaired vnto mee, desiring fauour, and pardon, and alleaging for him self, that the cheif cause of his vnduetifullnes, grew in reuenge of priuate iniuries offred by the gentlemen of the countye of Wexforde; vppon his submission, and pledges, **whiche** he presently

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put in, yt was thought meete to receaue him to grace, The like offer was made
and pledges put in, by Moroughe oge Cauenaughe, for all the Cauenaughes of
the baronye of Idron, whose pledges, weare deliuered to capten George Carew at
Leighlin: But while thes submissions weare offred, I caused the Sessions 15
begunne at Wexforde, to be continued at Rosse, and finding that some of the principall
gentlemen of that countye of Wexford, had confederated with the rebelles, and namely
the best of the whole shier Nicholas Deverox, who had publicuely, confessed before
mee, and the whole assembly, matter worthy deathe, I caused him to be arreigned,
and althoughe the most part of the iurye heard his confession, and the matter so 20
plaine, and evident, as yt could not be denied, yet soche was their vnsounde dealinge
as they did most affectedlye acquite him, a plaine euidence to me how curruptly
all causes for the queene are handeled, in the absence of the gouernour, when ••* in
my presence so greate an abuse was offredd: In the ende of the sessions
I receaued from therle of Ormounde, three notable malefactors, whome he had 25
apprehended not longe before, namely Richard Butler, base sonne to Sir Edmounde
Butler, Ferdoroghe Pursell, and his brother, very infamous for their ill doinges,
Butler, because his offences weare in parte comitted within that countye, was
arreigned, and condempned there, but his execucion staid, because I would faine
matche him, and the rest, with equall number of the Baron of Vpperosseries 30
wicked kinsemen, whome I expect to bee put also into my handes: /
At my departure from Rosse, towerdes Fearnas, the remaine of the Cauenaughes

of the septe of Arteboye, offred submission vnto me in my campe, by Donell
Spanierde their capten (so called because he was in Spaine with Stewkeley),
but standing vpon some vnduetifull tearmes, weare not receaued, neither did they 35
keepe promise in their retorne vnto mee: And because they had fledd their
goodes without daunger of the Soldiors, the rather by meane of a floode suddenly
risen by an extreeme raine, they did the rather absente them selues. But
while they had their eyes vpon me and my campe, Capten macWorthe by my

dereccion, came throughe the county of Caterloughe vppon them, tooke a greate
praye, slewe xvj. of theire men of warre, and to the number of lx of the poore
people. In **whiche** he lost a gentleman of the countrey, one of the Garraldines
(Garrett Fitzmorice) whose father, and brother, are detected of greate treasons
and prisoners in this castle, and he being also somewhat touched labored to recouer
his creddyt vnder Capten Macworthe, **which** he had done by diuers seruices emonges
the omoores, and oconnoures, and now at this encounter **with** the Cauenaughes lost
his lief by a very smale wounde in the thighe, supposed no way mortall, or
daungerous: 40

At my passing by Fearnese, I receaued pledges of the freeholders of the
Kinsheloughe, and suspecting that imediatlye after my departure, some attempt
would be made vppon the county of Wexford, by the sept of Artboy, I left
some force there vnder Masterson and Sinnott, to make hedd against them
who **within** a day, taking the Cauenaughtes, at an aduantage, slew to the number
of 17. and tooke three notable prisoners, **which** on wednesday laste they presented
vnto mee, at my campe in the Birnes countrey: And so leauing those **partes** in
a reasonable stay of quietnes came to the border of the Glinnes the xxth day of
Iune, encamping neere to the forte, **which** I before builded at Castle Commin, In
that place or neere vnto yt, I continued my campe till the xxvijth, euery day
hunting the Glinnes, burning first all the habitacion, on the easte **parte**, and
then put certein bandes throughe the Glinn, to the West **parte**, and burned
and spoiled, all theire howses, and Cabans, and brought a pray, out of
the middest of the fastnes, **which** was verye desperatly defended by the space
of 2. or 3. howers, but not **without** losse to the rebelles of some of the
best of theire horsemen, 10 kearne, and 30 otheres, and **with** litle hurte to ours 60

or none at all: In **whiche** meane time Fraunces Stafforde, **with** the garrisons
of the countye of Kildare, annoyed greatly the rebbells in Shileloughe, as by
the note enclosed appearethe: / 65

After that Feaghe mac Hughe, had founde him self, thus earnestly followed, & the garrisons planted, so were in his bosome, he wroate vnto me* trouce for peace, but his lettres so arrogante, as thoughe he would haue yt none otherwise, but to haue therle of Desmounde, and all other his confederates contened in yt, aswell as him self, and required, that in effecte, all the rebelles of Leinster might depende vppon him, and vse whate religion he listed, In concludion when my victualles failed and that I founde cause to looke somewhate into the doinges of other partes, and that I might also accomlishe the dereccion, geuen me for the publishing of the proclamacions, I settled three garrisons, the one at Artlow, the other at castle Commin, and the thirde at castle Kevan, and in eache place, 200 footemen and 50 horsse: and appointing also two other garrisons vppon the West part of the Glinne, and directing them to observe certaine daies, and times, when eache garrison might aunswere other, ••• and attempt the Glinne in sondry places at once, I* hope that god will geue shortly suche successe, as may banishe them the place, or driue them to suche a submission, as shall carrye with yt some probability of obedience heereafter, for without soche compulsarye meanes, I do not finde, that the offer of a pardon to him coulde prevaile, so well confirmed is he by Rocheforde, and other popishe Instrumentes, to follow his oathe, & obedience which he hath sworne, & vowed to the pope

While I haue bene thus occupied in this Iorney in Leinster, I heere that therle of Desmounde, hauing all the forces with him, that depended vppon the erle of Clancarre, the Barries, and all the euell disposed in Mounster was assembled, to the number of 1600 men in therle of Clancarres countrey which collonell Zouche, vnderstanding ••* thoughe bothe his owne bande and capten Caces, weare very muche dishabled, by deathe, and Sicknes, and the supply not then come vnto them, yet he resolved to seeke out the erle, and so passing from Dingle in Kerry, to castle Mange, he traueyled all night and in the Dawning of the day, fell vppon the campe of therle, not so sodenly

but that he was a litle forewarned, by suche as weare in the colonelles company, 95
 But yt pleased god so to deale for him, as therle escaped hardely **with** lief, **iiij^{xx}** of
 his company slaine, whereof xvj principall gentlemen, and him self hurte, (as
 yt is reported, and so scattered theire company, as they are not yet assembled
 againe, as farre as I learne, The englishe in thende of the chace, encamped
 in the same place, and **leisarly** returned to theire garrison, **with**out enny losse 100
 of ennye one man, but **iiij^{or}** horses hurte: In this enterprise, The chaunter
 of Limerick, being a tall horseman, who came out of Spaine, **with** Iames
 Fitzmorise, and one of the greatest confirmers of them in the **••••••** popes* cause,
 was slaine, by the colonell his owne handes, who is greatly lamented emonges the 105
rebelles, bothe for his profession, and also his aliance emongst them. /
 It hath also pleased god to put into my handes, one Roberte Fitzmorise fitzgarrett,
 a studente, that hath ministred the oathe, to all the confederates of Leinster, and
 Mounster, who guided Iohn of Desmoude into Leinster, and wrought the vnion
 betweene him, and Feaghe **mac** Hughe, and being also an execucioner of greate murders
with his owne hande, did the day before he was taken, murder the vndersherif of the 110
 countye of Dublin, and was apprehended, throughe the practise of **Capten** Macworthe
 by his owne brother, the same **gentleman** that I declared to be slaine by the Cauenaughes
 in the late iorney made by **Mac**worthe, I haue not yet had **leisar** to examine
 him, but he remainethe close prisoner, in the castle of Dublin: /
 Vppon the discharge of therle of ormonde, from the gouerment in Mounster, I addressed 115
 thether **50** horsse, vnder the leading of **Capten** Norreis, and deuiding the garrisons
 into diuers **partes**, I gaue in euery **parte**, order to the Captens to follow the rebells in
 certeine circuites. **Sir** William Morgan for the borders of the county* of Waterforde*
 and the easte **parte** of the country of Cork, accompanied **with** **Capten** Norris, **Capten** Peers
 and **Capten** Rawleyes bandes, **Capten** Apseley, for the **parte** **which** liethe betweene 120
 Kinsale, and Baltimore, **Sir** George Bouchier, **with** the prouost marshalles
 horsemen, and two bandes of footemen, for the plaines of the county of Limerick,
 and the woodes adioyning to the towne of Kilmallock, **Capten** Barkley for
 Coniloughe, and Colonell Zouche, for Kerrye, and Desmoude, In **whiche**

state they are to remain, till either yt shall *** like hir maiesty to sende
thether a presedente, or els that I may haue lesare to visit thes partes: /

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From Vlster, I heere for Certeine that iiij^{or} of the kinge of Scottes garde haue
brought to Turloughe Lennoughe, and to his wief presentes from the kinge, of
apparell, and other giftes, That Odonnell is sworne to aide him with men, but
not to sturre in his owne persone, and that Turloughe hathe vowed to sturre heere,
if anny attempt shall be made, by Scottlande, against Englande.

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Connought is very quiet, sauing orworke whose countrey hathe of late bene invaded
by Sir Nicholas Malbey, by meanes whereof, there is some likelihoode of his
submission, vppon whome yt is thought, the proclamacion now to be published of
generall pardon, may somewhat prevaile, because all his confederates within that province haue
geuen him ouer, what effecte yt shall otherwise work in generality, your Lordships shall know
shortely, For that I purpose presentlye the publishinge of yt:

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Lastely I haue to declare to your Lordships, that where the Mayour, and diuers of his bretheren
of Waterford, did with greate vehemency follow an accusacion, against their Bisshop for
Sacriledge done in the churche there I called the matter in question before me at Rosse,
where all parties weare presente, and by examinacion of the matter at large yt appeared
manefestly, that the bisshop was malitiously sought, bothe by the citzens and the
deane, and their faultes being made probable vnto them, so as yt coulde not be denied
the counsell ordered, that the citzens weare fined to beare the bisshops Charge of Cth markes
and by publique proclamacion to be made in all citties, and townes, and namely at
Waterford, in presence of the Mayour, the bisshop to be acquitted of the slaunder, raised
vppon him, whereof I thought yt conueniente to enfourme your Lordships: And so not
hauing farther to enlarge at this time, do comytt you to the Lorde: At Dublin
the of Iulye 1581.*

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Post script. In the proclamacions now published, I haue Yowr Lordships most assured too

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by the advise of the counsell, allowed that
the Seneshall of Imokelly, may take the
benifyt of the pardon, if he will, and haue
also excepted certen other of the most notable
of the rebelles ••••* and in a schedule heerewith Closed
haue sente your Lordships the names of them, and added the causes, why in reason they
are to be excepted, meaning neuerthelese (vnlesse your Lordships shall geve order to the
contrary) vppon their submissions to receaue some of them to grace.

Commaunde,

Arthur Grey

Note on hands

The main text of this letter is in a compact and very regular secretary hand (not Spenser's); the subscription and signature are Grey's. The address is in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand, and he seems to have added the words 'Post script' to the main text of the letter in his distinctive italic. The final element of the endorsement ('my Lords', printed here under the endorsement) appears to be in Grey's hand, and probably represents a note left for Spenser, who sealed and addressed the letter.

* **Address {p}rivie Councell /.**] the removal of the letter's seal has defaced this corner of the address.

* **23 ••]** Something similar to 'in' deleted.

* **69 me]** 'me' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.

* **80 ••...once, I]** 'and' deleted, a comma added after 'other', and the long phrase 'and attempt...once, I' inserted above the line, with a caret mark. This is clearly a case of eyeskip during scribal copying.

* **90 ••]** 'bo' deleted.

* **103 ••••• popes]** 'queenes' deleted, and 'popes' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.

* **118 the county]** Because 'the' and 'county' have been placed so close together, a light slash (not reproduced here) has been inserted in the manuscript to divide them.

* **118 Waterforde]** Original 'Wexforde' has been overwritten as 'Waterforde'.

* **125 ••]** 'kik' deleted.

* **149 the of Iulye 1581.]** A space has been left here for the insertion of the day, which was not subsequently added.

* **155 •••••]** 'andin' deleted.

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