

NA (PRO) SP 63/88/9  
Grey to Walsingham, 7 January 1581/2

**Address and Endorsement**

To the right Hono-  
rable my especiall  
good Frend Sir  
Fraunces Walsingham  
Knight Chief  
Secretary to her Maiesty

1581  
Ianuary.7.  
From the Lord Deputy.

**Text**

Sir, I receaved yeesternyght yowr packett of the  
xxvij<sup>th</sup> of the last, wherin iij letters from yowr sellf  
vntoo mee I fownde; the one aduysed mee too disch=  
ardge all sutche pencioners as hauyng pencion heere  
doo remayne there, as Mr Northe amongst those  
yow name; surely sir I thynck it Verie iust that  
whow serue not shuld not haue paye, marrie waying  
that sutche were boathe receaved & continewed heere  
beefore my tyme & moast of those absents oald &  
powre seruitures whowse pencions arre the onely  
Stayes of theyr lyuyng beesydes that they arre •••••\*

5

10

freended & beelonging too one or oother greate persone  
there amongst yow; & for dooyng heerof hauyng  
no particular direction from thence, what •••• hard dealyng\* 15  
too **the** one I shuld sheowe & what dislyke of **the**  
oother I shuld reape too **yowr** owane iudgement I  
beetake: & as tootchyng Mr Northe in pryuate:  
(what so euer seruyce I take **hym** to bee of) his bodie is  
heere & hathe been this greate whyle; **withall** I haue  
receued no small nor common Commendations & reque= 20  
stes in his beehallf **from** \* 30.\* **which** yow knowe I am  
not too neglect. But for this matter if my **letters** &  
instructions by **Sir Nicholas** Malbie had been considered  
it woold haue appeered **that** I am not vnmyndfull of it,  
as vpon **the** same **yowr** directions thence had no iott shallbee 25  
vnexecuted. An oother poynt of **the** same **letter** signi=  
fyethe her **Maiesties** pleazure too Mr **Threasorer** for payement  
of all bylls as well too soldiors as Martcheantes too bee  
made heere by **hym** hencefourthe & ••\* sutche bylles not too bee  
sent ouer thyther, truly **the** order is moast good, but vnless 30  
mooney in proportion bee lykewyze ordered too bee sent hyther I  
see not but **that** it wyll prooff a shaddoe **withowte** a bodie. And

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heere lett mee remember one thyng **that** if it shuld  
bee vzed wyll bryng no small inconuenience I meane  
**the** thowroghe paye of Captaynes there theyr Coompanies 35  
remaynyng heere: **the** Ientlmen **that** haue **the** faouere I  
looue deerely well & thynck them woorthie of greate  
good turnes, but fynding a generall mischieff heerby  
too fall for a pryuate good, I could not but pryu=

ately guyue yow a warnyng, prayeng **withall that** it bee  
not vzed too **the** displeazure of any of them for that  
**that** is past. 40

**Yowr** second **letter** chiefly emportyng an awnsswer too  
a former of myne, yow aduyse mee therin too followe  
**the** directions from thence, **which** truly moast wyllyngly 45

I wyll doo if it bee possyble, **which** condition I  
ad beecause **the** impossibilitie of one direction tootch=  
yng **the** issuyng of **the** late treazure sent was  
sutche, as ••••\* what good wyll so euer rests  
in mee too perfourme it, **the** courss & plyght of 50

thynges •\* heere wyll not beare it **withowte** endane=  
geryng sutche a stur & discontent of soldior &  
cuntrie as hardly woold haue been appeazed or recooue=  
red, hauyng therfore too sayle beetwyxt these extre=  
mities, ••••\* sownde meanyng & trust in God beeyng 55

styll my pillows, I chose rather too aduenture ••••\*  
myne owane pryuate displeazure then **the** generall  
harne, neyther therin haue I followed myne owane  
head **withowte** **the** aduyce & consulltation of myne assist=  
ance, as by a packett • •••but\* twoo dayes past (thowg  
of an elder date) dispatched maye more at lardge 60

••\* appeare vnto yow, **which** heere in shall cause mee now  
**the** shorter, neyther therfore woold I haue vzed now any  
speeathe had not this **yowr letter** iustly remembred mee of

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what I had sayed I woold doo in strickt followyng 65  
of the same direction, **which** surely **that** I myght

not perfourme, withowte **the** forsayed hazarde, what  
 grieff & Coombatt in mysellf it bred my God  
 best knowethe: yea, in trowthe **Sir** I dezyre to  
 bee directed & as I haue often beefore to **the** whole 70  
 ••\* table there made **the** petition for **the** same so  
 now too yow as my esspecyall freend in pryu=  
 ate doo I renew **the** furtherance therof for  
**the** tyme **that** it shall pleaze God too laye **the**  
 cross on mee of myne aboade heere. And 75  
 since I am now in hande **with** these directions  
 it seemes conuenientest too guyue yow heere\* knowledge  
**that** **Sir** Nycholas Malbie signifeyethe now vntoo mee **that**  
 alyttle beefore his arryuall a packett was dis=  
 patched hyther by **which** It was directed from her 80  
**Maiestie** **that** all sauynge 3000. shuld bee heere disch=  
 arded & **that** perceauynge by yow **that** shee was not  
 too bee remoued from that resolution; hee wysshed  
 mee too see it executed: Now **sir** it is so **that** neyther  
 since nor beefore hys departure I haue receaued 85  
 any sutche **letters**, **which** if I had most wyllyngly  
 I woold haue followed, & truly for my parte  
 (hauynge allreadie sufficiently therin dischardged dutie)  
 wyll I neuer seeke too allter that purpoze or  
 ••••• •• requyre\* supplie, hap what hap maye; but I praye 90  
 yow haue this in mynde **that** I haue heetherto recea=  
 ued no sutche commaundment, but hye it hyther as  
 fast yow wyll it shall, God wyllyng, **with** as mootche  
 speede bee fullfyllid.\*  
 As tootchyng **mr** ••\* Piphoe, assure **yowrsellf** **that** hee shall not 95

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want what I maye doo for hym were hee farder  
from yow then hee seemes too bee, neyther was my  
quarrell vnto hym oother then **that** I regarded **the**  
eeuyll conceyte **that** his •\* wrong enformation myght  
haue wrowght in yow toowardes mee, **which** fynding  
not wayed I rest satisfied.

100

That my testimoniall & commendation of 562\* hathe  
been so well accepted **with** yow I render many thanckes:

how bee it too bee **plaine with yow I ha**

**ve of late**\* fownde but **very suspici**

105

**os dealing**\* amongst all my best esteemed **asso**

**ciates**.\* onely heereof I guyue yow a watche=

woord not **that** I woold haue any **quarrell**\* made

of it, or **that** I\* waye it, for, sana conscientia a brazen

wall; ootherwyze a desperate creature this place

110

sure woold make one.

Now to **yowr** last **letter**; wherby sum dowght maye bee

gathered in yow **that** I shulld conceaue yow to haue

cuncurred **with** them that doo condemne mee vnhard;

& agayne **that** I shulld myslyke too haue **the** fawltes,

115

I am there chardged **with**, emparsed vnto mee:

Too **the** first, in trowthe, **Sir**, I can not denye but

**that** sum thyng in **yowr** former **letter** stirred a feare in

mee **that** ••\* reporte had sumwhat preiudiced mee toow=

ardes yow, **the which** my neere mynde of **yowr** good opinion, & by

120

greate affection not alltoogeather voyde of Ielousie, •\*

woold not suffre mee but too make sum sheowe of,

my faulte & error wherin\* this **yowr** letter doothe sheowe mee, too  
my no small ioye & content, I therefore doo\* confess & ack=

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nowledge eyther & so hoape of remission, eeuyll 125  
wyll or disdayne hauyng been no causies therof, /  
The oother, .....\* **that** I shulld dislyke too heare  
of my\* chardgies, is so farre **from** mee, as truly I  
haue heethertoo euer heald it not **the**\* least toaken  
of **yowr** firme & true freendship\* toowardes mee, 130  
acknowleging therby, beesydes **the** benefitts by **yowrsellf**  
reckned, **the** man not meanely armed **that** is ••\* fore=  
warned styll, hoald on then I earnestly beeseet=  
che yow **yowr** beegoonne & styll promyzed coursse therein  
tyll my dislyke shall allter it, **which** weaknes of 135  
iudgement or rather meere follie I trust my  
God wyll neuer suffre too beefall mee, & for **the**  
same as all oother **yowr** freendly partes thanckfullnes  
in mee shall not ••\* lack, howeuer oother meanes  
of requytall I maye bee barren of. Heere to 140  
end, I praye yow **Sir**, as conueniencie wyll suffre  
procure **Sir Nicholas** Malbies dispatche, & therein esse=  
cyally I commend too **yowr** earnest care my takyng **from**  
this place, & in **the** meane tyme lett vs not bee made  
forlorne peeple boathe for meate & mooney, for in  
trowthe **Sir**, where **the** fawlte is I know not, but as  
scantly are wee handled in owre .....\* supplies of  
vittayle as of treazure, **the** extremities arre greate  
& so farre beeyonde reatche of bearyng as my lieff 145

is grieuus vnto mee with it. The Lord bee with yow euer./  
Dublin the 7<sup>th</sup> of Ianuary 1581.

150

Yowrs assuredly euer,

Arthur Grey

Bryan Fitzwylyams liefftenant &  
coompanie heere beeyng now dischargd  
exclame greatly for theyr paye; whowse  
recknyng cast vp hee is fownde neere 200<sup>li</sup>

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quade, wherof I thowght good, ••\* beesydes hymself too guyue yow onely knowledge  
for that I fynde yow looue hym & that wylyngly myself woold not ••\* breede hym discreditt,  
which to sallue as mootche as in my lyethe, I haue heere caused the solldiores too bee payed,

160

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& sum creditt of his in the Countrie & ootherwyze too rest  
vnawnsswered, which too satisfie the onely meanes I see  
is that a staye bee made •\* in the exchecker there of  
so mootche as by a prouysoe in his late warrant for  
paye was suspended namely of the encrease of hys  
entertaynement; this extremitie caused mee too  
signifie this vnto yow which ootherwyze for the good wyll  
I beare the Ientleman I woold not haue doon: I haue  
sent hymself the Copie of his whoale recknyng  
vnde the auditors hande./

165

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Arthur Grey

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### Note on hands

The text of the letter, including the subscription and signature, is written in Grey's characteristic cursive italic hand, with some passages, marked in this transcription, in code. The address is in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand, and the endorsement in a later italic.

- \* **11** .....] 'there' deleted.
- \* **14** .....**hard dealyng**] inserted above the line, with a caret mark. One word, perhaps 'wrong', has been deleted below them.
- \* **21 from**] in code, not transliterated. This reading has been supplied by reference to similar examples of transliterated code in other letters.
- \* **21 30**] Unidentified.
- \* **29** ..] two letters deleted.
- \* **49** .....] five letters deleted.
- \* **51** .] 'w' deleted.
- \* **55** .....] four or five letters deleted, probably 'meany'.
- \* **56** ....] 'myne' deleted.
- \* **60** • .....**but**] 'a twoo' deleted, and 'but' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **62** ..] 'ap' deleted.
- \* **71** ...] 'tak' deleted.
- \* **77 heere**] 'heere' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **90** ..... **re quyre**] 'seeke for' deleted; 're quyre' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **94 fullfyllled**] after the letters 'full', the letter 'y' has been deleted and the letter 'f' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **95** ..] 'Ph' deleted.
- \* **99** .] 'e' deleted.
- \* **102 562**] Unidentified.
- \* **105 plaine...of late**] in code, transliterated above the line.
- \* **106 very...dealing**] in code, transliterated above the line.
- \* **107 associates**] in code, transliterated above the line.
- \* **108 quarrell**] in code, transliterated above the line.
- \* **109 I**] 'I' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **119** ...] three characters deleted.
- \* **121** .] 'I' deleted.
- \* **123 wherin**] 'wherin' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **124 doo**] 'doo' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **127** .....] 'certaynely' deleted.
- \* **128 my**] 'my' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.



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- \* **129 the]** 'the' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
  - \* **130 freendship]** the letter 'i' in this word is inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
  - \* **132 ••]** two letters, perhaps 'fa', deleted.
  - \* **139 ••]** 'ho' deleted.
  - \* **147 •••••••]** one word, perhaps 'vitailles', deleted.
  - \* **158 ••]** 'too' deleted.
  - \* **159 ••]** 'be' deleted.
  - \* **163 •]** 'o' deleted.

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