

NA (PRO) SP 63/89/11
Grey et al. to the Privy Council, 4 February 1581/2

Address and Endorsement

To the right Honorable **our** very good
Lords & others of her
Maiesties privie Councell

Yeue this /

4. februarij 1581
from the **Lord** Deputy and
counsell of Irlande

Entred

Text

Maie it please Your **Lordshipes** Having this daie receaued her **Maiesties** **lettre** of the xxvijth of Ianuary Directed to me the **Lord** Deputie. I haue according the contentes therof, vpon consultacion had **with** the residue of her **Maiesties** Councell heare, sett downe an other cashe of seven hondered men to beginne the last of this Moneth: And where for the more speadie easinge of her **Maiesties** burden (**which** wee cane not but be sorrye that her **highnes** findeth to waigh so heauie,) wee would haue restrained the daie of the Cashe to a shorter tyme, Yet consideringe booth the distaunce of the waies (some of them being in the furthest **partes** of Mounster) and no money remayning to satisfie their paies, wee were driven to extend the tyme so farr for avoiding of harmes and mutynies **which** might ryse amongst Companies to be dischargd and no paie to be made to theim. Assuringe Your **Lordshipes** that yf wee had bine as well hable to satisfie them their waiges, as wee are willinge and readie to obey her **Maiesties** will to putt them owt of paie, the daie of their dischargd should haue bine too morrowe; For the **lettre** was not one hower in the handes of me the **Lord** Deputie, but that I called a consultacion of the rest, whervpon wee **presentlie** agreed vpon this Dymynucion, wherof two hondered might **within** three daies haue bine dischargd and sent awaie yf there had bine money wher**with** to paie them: wee haue in a scedule herew**ith** named the Capteins of the vij^C nowe cashed and the provinces where they serued, Emonges **which** the three barwick bandes are thought meate to be retorned and to be sent to Chester there to expect her **maiesties** resolucion, whether they shalbe employed in

their ould place of garryson in Barwick, or otherwise seuered to 25
the places of their byrth or former beinges, wherin wee praie your
Lordshipes to haue your speadie direction. And that about all thinges your
Lordshipes will consider of the certificat latelie sent by me the treasurer
and mr Auditor, howe much treasor there wanteth for satisfieng
of those formerlie dischargd, and adding thervnto the vij^c souldiours 30
nowe cashed, to dispatch so much Money at the least as maie
Necessarilie serue for discharge of all the Nombres: For your Lordshipes maie
consider the estate of the poore souldiours and howe hard it were for
them to be dischargd withowt paye, carieng with it, besides slaunder
to the state, eyther desperacion in the poore men causing them to 35
come into some Disorder, orelles to falle into the dainger of famyn

and starvinge, or be driven to breake the lawes so soone as they
sett foote in England to the disscoradginge of all other to be imployed
in her Maiesties service: Of all which wee hartelie praie Your Lordshipes to
haue regard. And that your willingnes to send treasor in a case 40
of so great ymportance and necessitie. May answer our readines
to obey the direction of her Maiestie and of your Lordshipes: For the sooner the
treasour arryveh, the sooner shall this great chardge of her Maiestie
cease, and till then we haue no waie to ease yt; vnlesse speciall
order from her Maiestie or your Lordshipes be given us, that withowt any respecte 45
the direction be executed, which receaued, god willinge shall not be
Delayed: And so cravinge your Lordshipes speadie resolucion herein
wee comytt the same most hartelie to almightie god: At
Dublin quarto Februarij 1581

Your Lordshipes most assuredlie to commaunde: 50

Arthur Grey

Adam Dublin cancellarius

Henry Wallop

William bagenall Lucas Dillon Robert Dillon

Edward Waterhous: Geffray Fenton 55

Note on hands

The text of the letter is written in a fairly cramped but regular secretary hand (not Spenser's), distinctive for its bold up- and down-strokes. Spenser's familiar secretary hand appears in the address. The endorsement is in a fairly conservative secretary hand, with a few italic forms, and was probably added when the letter was being filed in London. The signatures concluding the letter, including Grey's, are autograph. The distinction between majuscule and miniscule forms in this hand is a particular problem. In our transcription we have in several cases been forced to choose rather arbitrarily; as these decisions do not much affect the sense of the letter, we hope they will not occasion overmuch anxiety.

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