

NA (PRO) SP 63/115/13

John Norris to the Privy Council, 7 March 1584/5

Address and Endorsement

To the right Honorable my very good Lords & others of her Maiesties Privie Councell../

.Lords.

.7. Marche .1584.

.....*

Mr. Iohn Norrys. sent for by the Lord Deputie to attend him in his iorney agaynst the Skots: but the Lord Deputie discounseled from that iorney he mindeth to returne to his owne chardge.

Text

It may please your Lordships to bee aduertized that vpon report of the landing of number of Scottes with Agnus mac Conell in the North, I was sent for downe hether by my Lord Deputie to attend his Lordship in a iourney which he forthwith purposed to make thether, but hearing that the said Scottes either terrified with the strength of the garrison there from further attempt or drawne home agayne by meanes of some Chaunges or troubles there happened as is informed) & being bycause of the vntymely season of the yeare discounseled from taking so hard a iorney in hand, his Lordship hath therevpon stayed his purpose. So now my self am presently to retourne back vnto the place of my Charge, which since my Coming thence I heare not but to stand in very good wise as I left it & so likely to continue; but the wastnes and generall desolacion of the whole countrey is such as well for want of people as of cattell being all consumed through the late warres as that emongst them which remaine, many stealthes are committed to keepe them

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in life, which are hard to be avoided through their extreme necessitie. Neuerthelesse I doubt not, but so to handle the Charge of gouernement, as that yt shall bee continued in good quietnes vnlesse greater Accident then yett appeareth doe happen. Of all which, as occasion still falleth, I will from tyme to tyme aduertize vnto your Lordships. And so I humbly take leave. Dublin, the vijth of March. 1584. 25

Your Honours humbly at Commaund,

Iohn Norreys 30

Note on hands

The address and the main text of the letter, including the subscription, are in Spenser's usual secretary hand. The endorsement, presumably added later, when the letter was being filed in London, is in a distinct hand.

* *Endorsement* [.....] indecipherable deletion, about 15-20 characters.

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