

**Endorsements**

Baron Dunganon

To the Lord Deputie

4 september

**Text**

The Copie of the Lord of Dunganons lettre  
4 September

My good Lord I have vpon good cause written of Oneile  
how that he would doe all the hurt & spoile he can to me  
my poore people & all the Subiectes, but my wordes were  
not beleved, I know not of whome yt is Long of. 5

But now I would faine leare\* whither I ought to  
have bene beleved. he Lay yesternight on this side  
the black water, & euer<sup>y</sup> howre send for mee to come vnto  
him: and I am contented to vndoe my self to lett all  
my goodes fly away fro me & not to come vnto him at all\* 10

Pardon my\* good my Lord for you had ill counsell not  
to come your self with some force. At your first coming  
ouer yf you had comen you might have made what  
peace you would. or yf you had sent force to Mr  
Marshall & me, wee would have stopped him this tyme; 15

and yett yf your Lordship doe not come or send forces, there  
wilbe such warre here, as all the rest wilbe nothing  
to yt. Yf your Lordship will not defend me I would be  
glad to know to thend that I might shifte for my  
self for my Life. for already my Countrey is spoiled  
and that few creates I have left I haue sent towards  
Drogheda. I will shew my self trew to my prince  
during my Life & would wish your Lordship to come for iiij  
or v daies then may you happely take some ordre 25

otherwise you shall neuer helpe this. Magennis  
is gone to Oneile & what end wilbe betwixt them  
I know not. My brother Art, Mac Donell, &  
O hanlon are gone to him, so that I am left alone.  
And so I humbly &c From magher Logh coo 30

the iiij<sup>th</sup> of September 1580

To the right honorable  
& his singuler good Lord the  
Lord Deputie of Ireland./

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### Note on hands

The text of this copied letter, including the header (probably a copy of the original's endorsement), is in a fluent example of Spenser's secretary hand, except for the second line ('4 September'), which appears to be his mixed hand. The first and third lines of the endorsement appear to be in the same mixed hand, while the second line is in a spidery secretary hand – presumably a later addition to the endorsement, made while the letter was being filed in London.

\* **7 leare]** Spenser has perhaps here omitted the medial 'n' of an original 'learne', or has possibly conflated, at speed, 'learn' with 'heare'.

\* **11 at all]** these two words, 'at all', were originally written as one word, 'atall', through which a stroke has been drawn to divide it.

\* **12 Pardon my]** the original probably read 'Pardon me'; anticipation, as here of 'my', is a common scribal error.

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