



Reuenge threatned  
for the slaughter of  
the Spanishe at Smer=  
wycke.

called a bischain Captaine and Diuers other Bischains said  
ther to this deponent that they wold be revenged  
with fire and sworde vppon Englishe and Irishe men for  
the kyllinge of their men at the forte at smericke and  
made their vaunt openlie that they wolde be shortlie 30  
in Irelande with an armie, he saieth further that  
the saide Iohn Martins was very earnest and inquisitiue  
to knowe of the fortification of Waterforde, and this  
examinat tolde him, that Waterforde was stronge ynogh  
to withstande them/ and told hym that they buylded 35  
a newe forte wherin there was •••.v.\* Canons bysides

.5. argosies  
to transport  
the Spanishe

other ourdynaunce, he asked also howe spedelie might our englishe  
armie come out of Englande into Irelande to rescwe them, this  
deponent answered that within and lesse then xx.iiij<sup>ti</sup> owers  
they might be in Irelande out of Englande, he saieth also that 40  
some of the Contrie, ther did report that ther was .5. great  
shippes or argosies in Lysborne apreparinge to carie an armie into  
Irelande about the begininge of Ianuarij last past, further he  
doth not depose the cause of his knowledge appered in his deposicion /  
William Lincoll fitz Andrewe of Waterforde Marchaunt beinge 45  
duelie sworne and examined diposed and saieth that he being  
at vigo in galisia, the 20. daye of December last he did see ther  
the Highe Admirall of that coast called Don Pedio Melendes  
and Captaine Carowe an Englishe gentleman having the Chardge  
of 72. shippes barckes and Carvilles Laden with victuales for 50  
Lysborne, and this deponent having mett twoo spaniardes of  
l his acquantaunces aborde one of the saide shippes  
l told him ther that so sone as the said ships were there\*  
at Lysborne discharged of their victuales that the soldiours  
then aborde those shippes shoulde be with others all to the 55  
number of tene thousande or there aboutes embarcked in other great  
shippes to be sent into Irelande and the said twoo spaniardes  
tolde the same to this deponent in greate secresie and willed  
this examinat that this present yere he sholde not goe into  
Irelande, he further saieth that he beinge the vj. of  
December last at pontefedro in galisia one pedro vascus the 60  
Chiefe scrivano of that towne willed this examinat and gave  
him greate charge as a frende that he shulde not resorte into  
Irelande for this yere,\* aledginge for certeyntie that tenne thousand  
spanishe soldiours wolde be sent into Irelande, which also saide wold  
rune over all that Realme to whome this examinat saide I wold 65  
for all that I were at home and when I ame I litle care

10000. Spaniardes for  
Ireland.

for them and if 20. thousande spaniardes were there they  
wilbe quicklie overthrowen; then saide, the sayde scrivano  
the soldiours that shall goe be all olde beatten men that  
one of them be worth .3 other commen soldiours he saide also 70  
that the saide scrivano willed this deponent not to speake  
openlie that the spaniardes sholde be discomfited in Ireland

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Least yow sholde be laide vpp in warde here. the cause of his  
knowledge appered in his deposicion/

Patrick Doben deputie\* maior of waterford 75

Peter Sherloge alderman

Rychard Aitwarde.

Copia Vera  
Edmund Spenser

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### Note on hands

The text of the letter is in an upright and regular secretary hand, not Spenser's; the signatures appear to be autograph. The italic first endorsement ('Advertisementes from Waterford./') is likely in Spenser's mixed hand. Spenser has also certified the letter with his signature at the bottom of the third page. The marginal annotations and the second endorsement are in a familiar italic hand, perhaps Walsingham's own.

- \* **Endorsements**] A good deal of what appears to be contemporary doodling appears adjacent to the endorsements, including the phrase 'A Monsieur d donner'.
- \* **18 went**] 'went' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **22 thousand{e}**] Damage to the manuscript here has obscured the end of this word; it could possibly be 'thousands'.
- \* **25 febr•uarij**] An extra character in the middle of this word has been deleted.
- \* **36 •••v.**] 'ij' deleted.
- \* **52 told him...ships**] 'told him ther that so sone as the said ships' inserted above the line in a different secretary hand (Spenser's?), with a caret mark. This is a clear case of corrected eyeskip. The double vertical bar in the left margin indicates that, because of the long insertion, these two lines of text represent a single line in the manuscript.
- \* **63 yere**] 'yere' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **75 deputie**] 'deputie' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.

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