NA (PRO) SP 63/81/36/2

Advertisements from Waterford, 16/20 March 1580/1

Endorsements

Advertizementes from Waterford ./

21 Martij
Deposed by sondrie persons late=
ly come out of Spayne that
they heare there of a prepa=
ration of 10000. for Ireland.*

Text

Thexaminacion of Christopher Lumbard fitz Iasper of waterforde marchaunt and others taken the <u>16</u>. Daie of marche 1580 before vs whose names are subscribed ./

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The saide Christopher Lumbarde beinge sworne vppon the

Preparation of Spaine set forthe of Portingall in Ianuary last for Ireland. holie euangelist deposed and saieth that he being at Bayon in spaine aboute aforthnight before Christimas last then came one Robert Lumbarde a marchaunt of waterforde from Lisborne and tolde this examinat that Dyvers of the soldiours of the kinge of spaine in Lisborne made their vaunt that they wolde into Irelande and that there was .4. or .5. argosies with divers other smale barckes pressed and taken vpp for that service, as they saide Lumbarde tolde hym, and yt was reported there in the Contrie that the saide Flytt went to sea, and what is become of them, this deponent knoweth not, he saieth also that one Captaine Fleminges man tolde this examinat at viana that the saide Flytt went* to the sea in Ianuarij last, and that he supposed they intended for Ireland. he saieth also that divers of the spanishe soldiours beinge there at viana saide that they wolde get into Irelande a greate armye, about .8. or .10. thousand{e.}* Robert strange of Waterford marchaunt being likwise sworne deposed and saieth that he beinge about the vth of febr•uarij* last in the Groyne one Iohn Martins then

8. or .10. thowsand.

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
in Irelande with an armie, he saieth further that
the saide Iohn Martins was very ernest 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

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a newe forte wherin there was •••.v.* Canons bysides

.5. argosies to transport the Spanishe

10000. Spaniardes for Ireland.

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.iiii^{ti} 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 I his acquantaunces aborde one of the saide shippes 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 number of tene thousande or there aboutes embarcked in other great 55 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 vi. 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

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 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

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Peter Sherloge alderman

Rychard Aitwarde.

Copia Vera Edmund Spenser 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 ('Advertizementes 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.] 'iij' 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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