Grey to Walsingham, 6 April 1581

Endorsements

To the Honorable
my very Loving frend
Sir Fraunces Walsingham
Knight Chief Secre-
tarie to her Maiestie

6 Aprill. 1581
From the Lord Gray.

Text

Sir, vpon aduyce taken with the choyce of my companions in councell heere & adding yntoo them certayne of her Maiesties learned councell best too bee trusted, wee fynde twoo extremities too ryze in the ordina=rie proceeding too tryall of the late endyghted pryzoners heere, too goe on wherin the late letters from my Lords there & her Maiestie directed mee. The one is the generall linck of kinred & alliance. the whoale sheere, whence these tryalls must bee retourned, hathe with the parties too bee tryed, & beesydes hardly acquyted of fauoure too the cause of theyr offence, what sounde verditt maye bee then hoa=ped of at sutche Iuries waye yowr sellf; a lawe or custome lykew= yze is heere that euerie one is allowed xxxv challendgies, which makes, that if vpryghtnes myght bee looked for, I see not, as the tyme serues, how
Mr Dillon a man trustie &c. whome he employeth therfore in this journey & cause. A parlament the only heale of those extreamities.

which shall be so heald as no prejudice of this tyme shall therby grow to other service.

lettres to hir Maiestie & my Lords for this parliament

mr Secretary

twoe to be crea

the number for the guestes woold bee supplyed: The oother is, that admitting theyr casting & condemnation, her Maiesties ryght & benefitt by theyr goods, landes & possessions, is cleane wyped awaye by deedes of guyft & oother conuyeyancies, as this bearar Justice Dillon more particularly shall enfourme yow, whosse aduyce hathe not alyttle auayled in this cause, & for his trust, endeouore & lernyng I haue now made choyce of hym for the followyng of this buzines, lett hym therfore I praye yow haue yowr favourable hearyng, furtherance & countenance. Well Sir, for these inconuenienciess no healp that wee can see but onely a parlament, which if, yppon my sundrie former letters had bee harckened vntoo, the matter ere this tyme had been in good dispatch too her Maiesties greate proffitt, no less honor, & more terror too these & all oother the lyke deseruers; & therfore lett it now bee well considered, & harckned vntoo, for els the contraries of these wyll assuredly fall owte. Lett not the obiection of the vnfitnes of the tyme stagger the assentyng too it, for, God wyllyng, it shall bee •• •••••• for els whytt empeatche yowr repayre of the best & dutiefullst sorte •• that in former tymes the assemblie hathe moast stoode on. I haue allso wrytten now abowte this same too her Maiestie, & too my Lords a generall letter from the •••• table heere, which, if yow shall not thynck amiss, I could wysshe 60 first acquaynted with, that sum choyce of yee myght bee made too, consider of it beecause you arre nott all one mans chyldren. Remember I praye yow the •••• callyng of those too bee

Lords that in my former I wrytte for: it wyll bee moast requysite
ted Barons
A note of the Lords spirituall & temporall

Request for three to be Bushops.

Sir William Stanley & Mr Russell spoyl Feaghes Contrie

Commendation of Capt. Mackwoorthe with within this moonethe space putt too swoorde & executed very neere a hundrethe of the best of the Omoores, so as the rest of the sept hath not in pledge for theyr peacyble & good behauior; this man certaynely dezerves greate estimation not onely for valure but gouernment, enter hym therfore I praye yow into yowr Cataloge of well dezurers. /

The oother garrisoones heere abowtes arr daylie nybbling yp theyr churles & straggling knaues which beeyng of no greate accounte I lyke not mootche too aduertiss of.

I haue dispatched twoo Ientlemen too Chester & Bristowe for conducting ouer of the 1000. men yow last wrote for the supplies.

The letters by mr Fenton now is the onely woorde that euer I hard thence of all the packetts that I haue sent since my retourne from my last ioorneye, I praye yow sir haue vs mynde in deedes there how sieldoome so euer

for this action the onely weakenes & dowght assailant resting in our tem= porall lorde's, as a note heerenclouzed wyll sheowe.

| Sir Nycholas Mallbie hathe commended vntoo mee Steeuen Kerroan |
| bysshop Kilmacdoock too bee translated to the Bysshopprick of |
| Clomfarte in the cuntrie of Clanricarde, I praye yow sir gett hym |
| confirmed, & allso the oother twoo which by Mr Fenton I recommened too yow. / |
| Sir Wylliam Standley & Captayne Russell twoo nyghtes past made a roade intoo |
| Coalerrannell in hoape too haue surpryzed Phyagh Mc Hugh, but the |
| fourdes & passes they were too pass were so well kept as they crye roaze |
| beefore they could reatche hys howse, wherby hyssellf had gotten owte |
| & assembled his force too the number of 200 kerne & xx or 30 horss, |
| yet dyd hee guyue them leaue too burne hys towne & howse called |
| Ballinacore & kyll certayne of hys kerne & churles, withowt the loss or |
| hurtt of any of owres. |

Captayne Mackwoorthe hathe within this moonethe space putt too swoorde & executed very neere a hundrethe of the best of the Omoores, so as the rest of the sept hath not in pledge for theyr peacyble & good behauior; this man certaynely dezerves greate estimation not onely for valure but gouernment, enter hym therfore I praye yow into yowr Cataloge of well dezurers. /
To hasten the dispatch of Mr Dil—lon: & to favour him in his private business.

To procure the warrant a

wee bee thought of by letters. / So crauyng yowr earnest furtherance for the good & speedie dispatche of this bringer & lykewyze that yow wyl affourde hym” yowr good fauoure in his owne priuate rezonable buzyness, I take leaue & beeseethe the Allmyghtie euer too keepe direct & prosper yow. Dublin this vjth of Aprill Anno 1581. /

Sir at the ending heerof Mr Threasurer came too mee & shewed a warrant from her Maistie for my entertaynement browght now by Mr Fenton, therin I am allowed but 50 footmen, & agayne but 1500 li Irisshe for my diett: Yow knowe sir that I was promyzed as lardge a dyett as euer any heertofore had, I was allso promyzed 100. footmen: Vppon this & hauyng more care of the seruyce then priuate estate, I sought not* too staye too capitulate but relying myselff vppon yowr woord & care for mee came as incon— siderately for myne owane beehouff as myght bee; I praye yow therfore Sir see mee bettter dealt wth, or els presently wythedrawen, for surely as hauyng that that I accounted of I shall farre cum shortt of sauyng, so in beeyng thus scantled I shall noot saue myselff in shortt tym from vterror vndooyng; whytche I trust is not her Maisties wyll, moutche less yowr wysshe I knowe: but sir it is no small grieff too mee in the meane, the world beeyng able too testifie with mee & myne owane conscience how farre from gayne my purpoze is” in this seruyce, that so small consideration is had of it as enforced I am too craue my due or els by peace holding encurre a harder measure: too conclude, I praye yow Sir,
eyther procure mee the allowance according too the warrant drawen
by Mr Waterhowse, as youreself appoynted, * • • •* wherein my diett
is no more then the new establisshement allowethe,* & my bandes of 100 foot. &
50. horss as was promyzed mee at my sending awaye, or els
good Sir, as beeoffore I sayed, procure mee my leaue, which shall bee
farre wellcoomer vntoo mee then three sutche entertaynements
the appendices considered; & her Hyghnes pleazure heerin with sutche con=
uenient speede as yow maye I beeseetche yow procure mee.

Note on hands
The text of the letter is in Grey's usual italic hand, including several phrases in the customary code. The letter has been annotated in the left margin throughout, probably by Walsingham, and the code transliterated above the line. The address is in Spenser's characteristic secretary, the later endorsement – probably added during the filing process – in a different hand.

* 14 theyr] The 'e' in this word has been inserted above the line with a caret mark.
* 20 •[&'] deleted.
* 26 • • • • • ] 'y' contr' deleted.
* 29 •[no'] deleted.
* 31 •[&'] deleted.
* 34 60] Standard numerical code for the Queen.
* 35-37 choyce of...mans chyldren] Much of this passage, from '60' onwards, is in code ('choyce of yee myght', 'consider of it because you arre', 'all one mans children'); the recipient, presumably Walsingham, has added this transcription above the line, character for character (as usual).
* 37 • • • ] 'adua' deleted.
* 39 dowght] The 'w' in this word has been inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
* 39-40 in our...lordes] 'in our temporall lordes' is in code; the transcription printed here is that inserted, presumably by Walsingham, above the line.
* 41-42 •[one] deleted. The vertical bars to the left of this and the succeeding two lines indicate that, due to a substantial supralineal insertion, the three lines of text here represent two lines (with insertion) in the original manuscript; the lineation of these original lines has obviously not been preserved.
* 41-42 • • • ] 'for the' inserted above the line, and subsequently deleted.
* 41-42 • • • • ] 'pck' deleted.
* 41-42 too bec...Clomfartea] 'too bee translated to the Byshhopprick of Clomfartea' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
* 43 by] 'by' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
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