

NA (PRO) SP 63/83/6  
*Grey to Walsingham, 12 May 1581*

**Address and Endorsement**

To the Honorable  
my very loving  
frend Sir Fraunces  
Walsingham Knight  
Chief Secretary  
to her Maiestie

.12. May 1581  
receiued the .20.  
From the Lord Deputie  
of Ireland.  
Mr Secretary /

**Text**

Sir, the lettres heerenclozed from the Lord generall & counsell of Munster  
with a petition of the Countess of Desmoundes chiefly guyues mee  
occasion of wryting now; owre awnsswer too the same I lykewyze  
thought good too send: I knowe not what it wyll too yow  
but surely too mee it seemes a strange cource,  
that prouince\* goes de malo in peius I knowe not  
what too saye too it; forbearing hathe caused it, thyncking that at

pleazure it woold haue been healped, but it fayles fowly, so  
 as 112 is in a laberinthe wythe it.\* There  
 arre twoo of the Dessies of the Countie of Waterfourd gon owte 10  
 with a 100. or moe swoordes as I am enfourmed: It must bee  
 looked too in tyme & not dallyed with, or ells it wyll very shortly  
 too mootche sheowe itsellf; & looke for no healp so long as iris  
 she doothe gouern & that 112 is heer,\* thowg=  
 he I knowe 30\* nor yowrsellf\* wyll beeleeue it, howeuer 70\* 15  
 & mysellf\* doo & shall feele it, & so I leaue it. /  
 barrie roe\* withowte eyther submission or seruice dooyng ••••\*  
 is protected\* hee it is that killed george Champern.\*  
 & hys broother dauie\* is proclaymed now by 112.\* Now shall the  
 oother rest in owr bozoommes for too spye & rel 20  
 ieuie\* from tyme too tyme the knaue that is owte,\* &  
 this is owre pollicie, god send it good luck.  
 I make styll as fayre wether with Tyrlagh as I can: vppon the last trea=  
 tie of owre commissioners, hee came ouer the blackwater too the limines  
 & Mac Mahoundes countrie in sheowe too haue taken pledgies 25  
 of them for restitution of wronges & spoyles doonne by them, vppon  
 the pale, but the end sheowed that it was onely too assure those cunt=  
 ries the more vntoo hym, for not •\* the woorth of a pennie that  
 restitution was made for all hys pledgies takyng, & for\* better prouff  
 of hys good manyng in retourne hee tooke Clan de Boy in hys 30  
 waye, prayed the towne of Knockfergus, tooke buyinges of the  
 chiefist of the cuntrie & enforced them by othe too beecome hys  
 men; ••\* this mee thynckes maye guyue no meane sheowe of hys  
 purpوزه in the rest in case hee bee lett goe on; & aduertisments daylie  
 coome too mee of a greate force\* of Scottes daylie expected too lande. / 35

---

To procure a greater supply of treasure.	Owre supplies of men arre not yet coome <b>which</b> brynges no small hinderance too <b>the</b> seruice.	
To hasten <b>mr</b> fenton and <b>dillon</b> s dispatch	The Threasure <b>that</b> came now is so small as very little or no good at all it doothe, not beeyng able therof too <b>imprest the</b> bandes so moutche as wyll broage, trowe & mantell euerie soldior, & leaue any stake for any extremitie, good <b>Sir</b> take care of vs & in summe good tyme procure a more supplie. Hasten I praye yow <b>Mr</b> Fentons & Iustice Dillons dispatche, & forgett not I beeseetche myne owane dispatche hence, if my iust demaundes maye not bee harckned too.	40
To cause <b>Dean</b> Chapman to be sent ouer whom <b>the</b> Chapter haue elected Dean of Christchurch.	Vppon <b>the</b> Late Lord Chauncelors deathe <b>the</b> Deanerie of Christchurtche heere is fallen voyde, <b>the</b> coompanie haue called a Chapter & fallen too an election according too <b>the</b> patent of theyr corporation <b>which</b> mysellf sawe, they haue made choyce of Doctor Chapman, <b>which</b> I am very glad of, wysshyng wee had many sutche men heere to fyll owre beneficies <b>with</b> ; I earnestly praye yow <b>that</b> hee maye bee sent ouer, <b>the</b> lyuyng is good, & hee fitt for <b>the</b> place, wherin greate good woorck hee maye doo, as I dowght not in God but hee shall, bee carefull therfore good <b>Sir</b> that hee coome <b>with</b> sum speede.	50
To remember <b>the</b> warrant for his enter tayne ment.	Lastly <b>Sir</b> I commend vntoo yow* myne owane pryuate estate, <b>that</b> I maye haue my warrant for entertaynement renewed according too that <b>that</b> by <b>Mr</b> Waterhowse was drawn or ootherwyze gett mee to guyue ouer <b>with</b> recoouerable loss. So leauyng for this tyme I beetake yow too <b>the</b> good gouernment & saff keeping of <b>the</b> Allmyghtie euer. <b>Dublin</b> this 12 <sup>th</sup> of Maie Anno	55
	<u>1581.</u>	60

Lett my Lord of Bedford bee acquaynted  
with this I praye yow.

Yowrs most assured  
/euer,

I had allmost forgotten not the smallest matter,  
the last of this moonethe now the terme of the compo=  
sition for the cease endes, I wyll not renewe it  
withowte commaundment from thence, neyther doo thynck it conuenient too bee  
doonne, for onece great hinderance doo I<sup>\*</sup> fynde by it too the seruice, & agayne a  
chardge & no sauynge to her Maiestie; I knowe greate laboure wyll bee made  
for the gettingyng of it & no small feese guyuen; but hoald yow hard I beeseetche  
yow in it, & beefore the sute coome it woold preuent well that I had a lettre<sup>\*</sup>  
from her Maiestie or the table there that  
consideryng the trowbles heere & eeuyll  
awnswwering of the due, which in deede  
is most true, 8000<sup>li</sup> not beeyng too bee  
gotten of it, it is thowght good no  
lenger too bee contynewed. I long to  
heare how owr owyng<sup>\*</sup> goethe  
forwarde, Deus bene auertat.

Arthur Grey

65

70

75

80

To cause a commission  
to be granted to the Lord  
Chancellors man for  
collecting of such  
wrytings as were  
with him at his death  
{...}<sup>\*</sup>

---

The bearar heerof seruant too the lat Lord Chauncelor heere as I was sealyng  
vp, came & requesty<sup>••d</sup> the cariadge of this packett gratis, & further offered  
his trauayle too collect all the wrytinges concernyng this state that rem=  
ayned with his late master now at his deathe, in case hee myght haue  
lettres from yow there too my Lords Gerrard & oothers that hathe hys dooynges:  
the seruice surely wyll bee of good recknyng for many thynges remainyed

85

with hym **the** notes & recordes wherof wyll bryng no small auayle  
& lyght too matters heere well sorted & wayed, I praye yow  
therfore, Sir, lett hym haue **commission** for **the** view, takyng &  
bryngyng hyther of sutch. & so with this 2<sup>d</sup> postscript many farewells  
in God agayne I beequeathe yow. The parties name is Rodger Radford.

90

---

#### Note on hands

The text of the letter is in Grey's characteristic italic hand, with many passages in code. A recipient, perhaps Walsingham, has annotated the letter in its later pages in a clear italic hand. The address is in Spenser's characteristic secretary, and the endorsement, as usual, in the later italic of a filing clerk.

- \* **4-6 what it wyll...prouince]** 'what it wyll', 'too mee it seemes a strange cource', and 'that prouince' are in code, transliterated by the recipient, presumably Walsingham, above the line. Here, as elsewhere, we have supplied the transliteration rather than the code itself.
- \* **8-9 so as...wythe it]** 'so as 112 is in a laberinthe wythe it' in code; as Walsingham's supralineal note ('Orm:') makes clear, '112' is Thomas Butler, the Earl of Ormonde.
- \* **13-14 irisse...heer]** 'irisse doothe gouern & that 112 is heer' in code; '112' is, again, the Earl of Ormond.
- \* **15 30]** '30', as Walsingham's note ('E: leceyster') reveals, is Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester.
- \* **15 yowrsellf]** 'yowrsellf' in code.
- \* **15 70]** According to Walsingham's note, '70' is 'Ireland' itself.
- \* **16 mysellf]** 'mysellf' in code.
- \* **17 barrie roe]** 'barrie roe' in code.
- \* **17 ••••]** five-character (illegible) deletion.
- \* **18 is protected]** 'is protected' in code.
- \* **18 george Champern]** 'george Champern' in code.
- \* **19 dauie]** 'dauie' in code.
- \* **19 112]** Again, the Earl of Ormond.
- \* **20-21 in owr..relieue]** 'in owr bozoommes' and 'spye & relieue' in code.
- \* **21 the knaue...owte]** 'the knaue' and 'owte' in code.
- \* **28 •]** 'a' deleted.
- \* **29 for]** 'for' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **33 ••]** 'his' deleted.
- \* **35 force]** 'force' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **56 yow]** 'yow' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.

---

\* **69 I]** 'I' inserted above the line, with caret mark.

\* **72 lettre]** The eight lines following this have been written at a right angle in the left margin, top to bottom.

\* **79 owr owynge]** 'owr owynge' in code, transliterated character by character above the line (the last two letters not expanded, leaving the transliteration as 'owr owyn').

\* **82 requesty••d]** The letters 'ng' deleted, and 'd' added above the line, with a caret mark.

\* **Annotation {...}**] A fold in the paper here has obscured the last line of the marginal annotation.

The transcription of this text is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Non-Derivative 3.0 License (see <http://creativecommons.org/>). You are free to download this transcription, but may not use it for commercial purposes, and must attribute the transcription to the authors, Christopher Burlinson and Andrew Zurcher, and to 'Hap Hazard: A Manuscript Resource for Spenser Studies' <<http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/ceres/haphazard>>. Permission to reproduce or adapt the manuscript originals, where necessary, should be sought from the manuscript-holder.