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

Address and Endorsement

To the Honorable
my very loving
freind Sir Fraunces
Walsingham Knight
Chief Secretary
to her Maistie

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

Text

Sir, the lettres heerenclozed from the Lord generall & councell of Munster
with a petition of the Countess of Desmoundes chieffly 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
pleasure it would have been healped, but it fayles fowly, so as 112 is in a laberinthe wythe it. There are twoo of the Dessies of the Countie of Waterfound gon owte 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 itself; & looke for no healp so long as iris she dothe gouern & that 112 is heer, thowg= he I knowe 30* nor yowrsellf wyll beeleeue it, howeuer 70* & myselfl* 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 daup* is proclaymed now by 112.* Now shall the oother rest in owr bozoommes for too spye & rel ieu* from tyme too tyme the knaue that is owte,* & this is owre policie, god send it good luck. I make styll as fayre wether with Tyrlagh as I can: vppo the last trea= tie of owre commissiners, hee came ouer the blackwater too the limines & Mac Mahoundes countrie in sheowe too haue taken pledgies 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 woorthe of a pennie that restitution was made for all hys pledgies takyng, & for* better prouff of hys good meanying in retourne hee tooke Clan de Boy in hys waye, prayed the towne of Knockfargus, tooke buyingses of the chiefist of the cuntrie & enforced them by othe too beecoome hys men; ••* this mee thynckes maye guyue no meane sheowe of hys purpoze 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. /
Owre supplies of men arre not yet coome which brynges no small hinderance too the seruice.
The Threesome that came now is so small as very little or no good at all it doothe, not beeynge able therof too imprest the bandes so moutche as wyll broage, trowe & mantell euerie soldior, & leaue any stake for any extremitie, good Sir take care of vs & in summe good tyme procure a more supplie.
Hasten I praye yow Mr Fentons & Justice Dillons dispatche, & forgett not I beeseetche myne owane dispatche hence, if my iust demaundes maye not bee harckned too.

Vppon the Late Lord Chauncelors deathe the Deanerie of Christchurtche heere is fallen voyde, the coompanie haue called a Chapter & fallen too an election according too the patent of theyr corporation which myself sawe, they haue made choyce of Doctor Chapman, which I am very glad of, wysshyng wee had many sutche men heere to fyll owre beneficies with; I earnestly praye yow that hee maye bee sent ouer, the lyuyng is good, & hee fitt for the place, wherin greate good woorck hee maye doo, as I dowght not in God but hee shall, bee carefull therfore good Sir that hee coome with sum speede.

Lastly Sir I commend vntoo yow* myne owane pryuate estate, that I maye haue my warrant for entertaynement renewed according too that by Mr Waterhowse was drawen or ootherwyze gett mee to guyue ouer with recoouerable loss. So leauyng for this tyme I beetake yow too the good gouerment & saff keeping of the Allmyghtie euer. Dublin this 12th of Maie Anno 1581.
To cause a commission to be granted to the Lord Chancellors man for collecting of such writings as were with him at his death [...]

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

Yowres most assured /euer,

I had allmost forgotten not the smallest matter, the last of this moonethe now the terme of the composure for the cease endes, I wyll not renewe it withowte commaundment from thence, neyther doo thynek it conuenient too bee doonne, for once great hinderance doo I fynde by it too the seruice, & agayne a chardge & no sauyng to her Maiestie; I knowe greate laboure wyll bee made for the gettyng of it & no small feese guyuen; but hoald yow hard I beseetche yow in it, & before the sute coome it would preuent well that I had a lettre from her Maiestie or the table there that consideryn the trowbles heere & eeuyl awnsswering of the due, which in deede is most true, 8000li not beeung too bee gotten of it, it is thought good no lenger too bee contynewed. I long to heare how owr owynge goethe forarde, Deus bene auertat.

Arthur Grey 65

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The bearar heerof seruant too the lat Lord Chauncelor heere as I was sealyng vp, came & requestyed the cariage of this packett gratis, & further offered his trauayle too collect all the wrytinges concernyng this state that remayned with his late master now at his deathe, in case hee myght haue lettres from yow there too my Lords Gerrard & oothers that hathe his dooynges: the seruice surely wyll bee of good recknyng for many thynges remayned 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 sutche. & so with this 2d postscript many farewells
in God agayne I beequeathe yow. The parties name is Rodger Radford.

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 irisshe...heer] 'irisshe doothe goouern & that 112 is heer' in code; '112' is, again, the Earl of Ormond.
* 15 yoursellf] ‘yoursellf’ in code.
* 15 70] According to Walsingham's note, '70' is 'Ireland' itself.
* 16 myself] 'myself' 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.

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