

**NA (PRO) SP 63/84/13**  
*Grey to the Privy Council, 10 July 1581*

**Address and Endorsement**

To the right  
Honorable the  
Lords & other of  
her Maiesties  
privie councill. /

Lordes. 1581  
Dublyn the x<sup>th</sup> of Iuly  
From the Lord Deputie

**Text**

My very good Lords; since my last aduertizementes sent vnto your Lordships I have received knowledge of a certein bickering which was lately betwene Tirlagh, & ODonell in the which there were certein of Odonelles chief capteins taken & slayne, besides many other of his men. which quarell now by them begonne yt is here by vs thought good to mainteigne, least yf happely otherwise then well should happen to the said Odonell, besides the great discouragement, which yt would generally strike into the hartes of such the Irishrie (how euer fewe) as have carried them selues well & duetifully towardes her Maiestie to see them selues in most distresse lefted aillesse yt would moreouer adde great stomach & haughtines to thenemy to oppresse the true Subiect, seeing him so destitute. For such occasion my self with the advice of the rest of the councill here, have thought yt expedient presently to make a iorney into those partes, which being of so great importaunce, as yt is, & fynding that not onely her Maiesties threasure here is clene emptied but also all this Cittie so bare & needy as no money is here to be borrowed for the necessary furnishing & provision of all such thinges as to this or any other iorney apperteyne, I am earnestly to crave of your Lordships that requisite consideration may hereof bee had for present supply of this extremitie, vpon which all the successe of this entreprice & generall service here besides dependeth, not knowing otherwise how to take the

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same in hand, by reason **that** bakeres & breweres cannot be sett  
on worke, nor conveyance by sea had for vittales, beside  
infinite occasions of **present paymentes** that such expeditions will  
of necessitie require together **with** the daylie charge  
of carriage for vittelles to the places of garrizons here  
aboutes **with** the contynuall cry of the soldier for his  
private pay

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All **which** referring to your **Lordships** gravest consideracion  
and earnestly praying that such speedy care hereof  
may bee had as the weightines of the cause requireth  
I humbly take leave. Dublin the x<sup>th</sup> of Iulie 1581

Since the wryting hereof I heare  
that Odonelles losse hath bene more  
extreme then the first report &  
that his whole force is in maner  
ouerthrowen & that Tirlagh re-  
mayneth yett in Tirconell  
spoiling & slaying at his pleasure. /

**Yowr Lordships** most assured  
to Commaund,

**Arthur** Grey

I have appointed **Sir Nicholas** Malbey  
**with** thenglish forces in Connagh and  
such Irish as he can vppon the  
soddein levy **within** his Rules to  
repaire to Odonell to his assistaunce  
And if the cause so require to meet  
me at Liffer at a day appointed.

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**Note on hands**

The text of the letter, with the address, is in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand, here bold and hasty. Grey has added the subscription and signature in his own hand. The endorsement, probably added later when the letter was being filed in London, is entirely in a broad-nibbed and inelegant secretary hand.

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