

NA (PRO) SP 63/84/26
Grey to Walsingham, 18 July 1581

Address and Endorsements

To the Honorable
my especiall good
frend Sir Fraunces
Walsingham Knight
Chief Secretary
to her Maiestie./

.18. Iuly. 1581
From the Lord Deputie
of Ireland.

Mr Secretary

Text

Sir this beara Captayne Howrde myght not pass withowte
sum my salutying of yow: I haue now aduertysed my
Lords there of the accidents that since my last haue happened
heere: which* I knowe wyll styll bee thowght as nothyng
neyther for any greate thyng doo I certyfie it, onely this with 5
the rest maye* well wittness that wee arre styll dooyng, which
in deede is all that of owre sellues maye bee perfourmed or in
ryght of yow can bee expected, the success well or yll, greate
or small beeyng onely Gods; & if for that which onely rests
in hym, wee yet ..* shall rest dislyked & condemned, owre healp 10
onely is pacience too attend boathe hys good pleazure, & beare yowr
displeazure so mootche the better that owre conssciencies doo cleere vs
of the dezert. But how lyttle so euer owre seruyce hathe
heetherto been, or at the least seemed, I dare assure yow, it wyll
bee less if thus hardly ...* yee deale with vs for mooney, ...* ear= 15
nestly therfore I beeseetche yow too lett her Maiestie & the rest of
my Lords bee enformed of it, that ..* boathe treazure & vittayle maye*
with all speede bee supplied ootherwyze that neyther too doo seruyce
nor yet too hoald the garrizones wee haue planted shall wee* bee
able; which hauyng aduertized & beeyng there neglected & so the eeuyll 20
happenynge, lett mee I beeseetche bee cleered.
Gods hand is styll heauely vppon vs with sicknes, the most parte
of owre men newly supplied fallyng dayly sick in theyr garrisoons{,}
Captayne Scopam this nyght dyed.
I woold too God, Sir yow had but the true feelyng of the miserable 25
condition that I heere stande in, the decayeng of the Coompanies by sicknes
on the one syde, the Continuall haytyng & crying owte for mooney &
vittayle on the oother syde, with the generall lamentable estate of
the cuntrie the people staruyng as they goe for want of sustenance,
& too make vp all the hard disposition there too doo any thyng 30

for **the** healpes heerof & small thanckes for my trauayle, in hell
on earthe yow could not but thynck mee too lyue, & loouyng mee, as I
knowe yow doo, no reazon woold carie yow but too procure my release.

It is now x dayes since owre happie generall pardoone was
proclaymed, & yet no one offer from any of **the** Mountayne rebels, 35
afewoe* freeholders vnable too guyue any assurance for ••* theyr
loallties excepted, **which** flattly sheowes too bee a pollecie, theyr coomyng
in tending onely to **the** gathering in of theyr haruiest, **which** doonne
they ••* wyll beecome as they were, **with** ••* sutche relieff too **the**
rest as afloate **the** cause wyll goe agayne: this is manyfestly 40
seene, yet arre they not refused, least then **the** faouurares of
this good courss woold alage that **the** cause of **the** small effect
(if so it prooue) of the politick aduyce. More at thys tyme
I haue not too trowble yow **with**; but too commend this Ientleman
too **yowr** former good care & ••* faouure, **which**, I fynde ••hathe* not, nor wyll 45
bee amyss employed: So too owre good God I beetake yow, whow
euer bee **with** yow, & ryd mee from this graceless office, **which** as
hys greatiest earthely blyss I woold accounte. Dublin this
xviij^{tie} of Iuly. Anno 1581.

Yowrs most assured euer/ 50

Arthur Grey

This dispatche was so sudden
as I could not for my lyeff make
any more **letters**: lett my good Lord of
Leaster therfore accept too bee a 55
partener heerof at this tyme **with**
my most Zelus dutie, & hoald mee excused for not wryghtyng too
hymself, constraynt causyng **the** defawlte.
I heare my Lord of Bedford & my Lady arre gon Westwarde./

I haue sent yow heer**with the** •* petitions of this towne considered 60
by vs according too **yowr** ••* direction, by **the** postilles wheron yow maye
knowe owre opinions./

Her Maiesties pleazure tootchyng Tirlagh Lenoghes petitions is forgotten
yet too bee sent mee; in **the** last **letter** from my Lords there it was men=
cioned but noane came: I shall therfore if wee meete now goe by 65
ayme; but **the** best is **that** so a peace bee made I shall not neede (•••as* I thync{ke})
too* feare what I grawnte; yet I praye yow procure mee a direction
in it **with** all possyble speede./

Note on hands

The text of this letter, including the subscription and postscript, is written in Grey's characteristic italic hand. The signature is Grey's own. The address is written in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand, and the endorsement, probably added upon receipt of the letter in London, is written in a distinct mixed hand. The 'addressee note' ('Mr Secretary'), added to remind Spenser to whom the letter, upon dispatching, should be addressed, is in Grey's usual hand, and appears on the verso at a right angle to the endorsement.

- * **4** [.....] one word, possibly 'thowghe', deleted.
- * **6** [....] 'maye' deleted.
- * **10** [..] two or three letters have been deleted.
- * **15** [....] 'wee' deleted.
- * **15** [....] either two or three letters deleted: {h..}
- * **17** [..] 'if' deleted.
- * **17** **maye**] 'maye' inserted above the line, with a caret mark that appears to be written over another character.
- * **19** **wee**] 'wee' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- * **36** **afewoe**] the sense here is as obvious as the spelling is unusual.
- * **36** [..] the abbreviation for 'the' deleted.
- * **39** [..] letters 'we' deleted.
- * **39** [..] either one or two letters deleted here.
- * **45** [..] one or two letters deleted here.
- * **45** [..**hathe**] 'is' deleted, and 'hathe' inserted above the line, with a caret mark. The caret mark has been written directly over the deletion.
- * **60** [.] one letter, possibly 'a', deleted.
- * **61** [..] two letters, possibly 'to', deleted.
- * **66** [....**as**] 'as' inserted above the line, with a caret mark. Two or three letters, {t..}, have been deleted. The parenthesis mark is very close to the word 'neede', and so may have been added at the same time as the deletion.
- * **67** **too**] 'too' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.

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