Address and Endorsement

To the Queenes
most excellent
Maiestie /

10.º Augusti 1581
From the Lord Deputy of Irelande
to the Quenes Maiesty.

Entred

Text

It may please your most excellente maiesty. As in my other letters, heerewith sente vnto your highnes, I haue declared the effecte of my late travell to the northen border, and my purpose now to prosecute, the rebelles vnder the vicount Baltinglas, and the obirnes and Tooles, so haue I thought good to lett your maiesty vnderstande, that those rebelles of the mountaines, are daily assisted by the Cauenaughes of the county of wexford, whose woodes and fast places, so ioine, and are mixed, one with an other, as yt is harde to containe them from parte taking with the rest: I take this occacon partelye to expresse to your Maiesty the state of Leinster, and how the Irrishe that offende yt, are the omoores, the occonnoures, the obirnes, the otooles, and the Cavenaughes, Over the omoores, and occonnours, a gouernour hathe euer bene appointed, the leiftenaunte of your fortes, by whome till of late yeares, those people, weare with force helde in obedience, and not suffred to grow in suche multitudes, as of late they weare: The Obirnes, and Tooles had theire Senishall, by whome they were
kept in good tearmes, till this declining from duety, which generally hathe happened since the landing of James Fitzmorice, and the practise made with forraine ennimies, But for ought that I canne discerne, the Cavenaughes haue since the departure of Sir Nicholas Heron, bene left in manner to them selues without comptrollement: For if yt be saiede, that the Senishall of the Countye of wexford, hathe had superioriye ouer them, yt may be aunswered, that hee neuer had force to comaunde them, and that three partes of fower in multitude, ware out of his rule in the County of Catherloughe, as those of the baronies of Simolin, and Idrone, And therefore for theire better subieccion heereafter, I see no better pollicy then to establishe ouer them a gouernour that may have like rule, as Sir Nicholas Heron had, who may geue them Iustice with severity, and make them wholy to depende of your maiesty, from whence they have bene diversly drowne, with dependauncy vppon others, To the perfecting whereof, one thing is very necessary, that your maiesty take to your self, the landes that weare Sir Peeter Carewes, now in possession of George Carew, and he to be recompesed for yt at a reasonable valewe, ether in pension, as your maiesty may haue the rent duely aunswered, or in exchaung at a conveniente rate, By whiche theis comodities will follow, that he to whome the Cavenaughes, and your house of Leighlin should be comytted, might haue those landes as a demaine, at a certaine rente for his Diet and shalbe defalkeable vppon his entertainemente, yt shall take awaye all offence from the people, whome no good vsage ether of George Carew, or of his brother Sir Peeter coulde winne to lyve in good Conformity, and obedience, though he vppon examinacion thereof I finde that bothe brotheres, have sought to winne them bothe by curtesey, and liberallitye, and by a iust order of dealing, How well George Carew hathe deserved since my coming hether, bothe in execucion of service, and also with Care and diligence to keepe that border in good tearmes to the vttermost of his hability, I can well wytnesse, And therefore cannot but geve him his dew Comendation for yt to your maiestye.

But this rule is generally to be noted, not only in thes Cauenaughes, but in all the Irrishe, that whatsoever they bee, (not gouerned by a man of aucthority, or by your maiesties forces), they disdaine to obey to inferior personnes, and especially thes Cavenaughes, who haue, (as I heere) made many peticions, to depende vppon your maiesty, How necessary yt is for your maiesty to be
possessed of thes landes, and to sett a man of some Countenunce there, will appeare if
you Consider the Situacon, whiche is suche, as seuerethe the Cauenaughes, from the omoores,
and the County of Wexford from Kildare, and Leix, and stoppethe, or openethe at your pleasur
the whole trade and entercours, betweene Mounster, and the englishe pale, & therefore
meete to be only at your maiesties devocion, and neuer to be put from you into the handes of eny
subject ether Englishe, or Irrishe./
Thus muche I thought good to say to your maiestye, touching the Cavenaughes, and for the
meane, to gouerne them heereafter, not doubting but your maiesty shall finde emonges your
counselloures, diuers, that will not dissente from this opinion, concerning the setling of those
partes: And so I leaue yt to your maiesties further Consideracion: At Dublyn the xth
of Auguste. 1581.

Yowr Maiesties most humble servaunt,
& faythefull subiect,

Arthur Grey
Note on hands
The text of the letter is in a compact and regular secretary hand (not Spenser's). Both Grey's subscription, in a rough italic, and his signature are in his own hand. The address is Spenser's bold and expansive secretary hand, and the endorsement in a distinct, later hand.

* 4 rebelles* Here, as elsewhere, this secretary has been inconsistent in his usage of the terminal 'es' brevigraph, supplying it in addition to the 'e' (i.e. writing, in effect, 'rebelles'). Because the scribe occasionally uses terminal 's', terminal 'es', and the terminal 'es' brevigraph more conventionally, we have chosen to interpret the apparent 'ees' endings as 'es', and have represented them in the usual way.

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