Address and Endorsement

To the right honorable
my especiall good friend
Sir Fraunces Walsingham
{Knig}ht Chief Secretary
{to} her Maiestie./

November 1581
From the lord Deputye.

Mr Secretary

Text

Sir, God bee thancked for yowr saffe returne, truly it
was ***** now’ more dowghted & sorrowed by yowr freendes heere
then in any Iourney that ever yow made. I perceaue by
yowr letters the good lyking that owre auditors booke browght
yee there for owre husbandrie heere; well, as for
the dowghtes & fawltes therin fownde I wyll referr too
the awnsswer of the memorials which shall not bee long
too & then I dowght not but the labour there shall
shoowe a greater buzines too fynde faultes, then good
judgement too collect iust matter: In the meane tyme
yet, my Lord of Leaster hauyng by this priuat’ letters vowtchesaued
too gather the chieff poynetes of that bookes dislykes, I
could not but particularly seeke too awnsswer & sa=
tisfie hym therin which yowrsellf too bee acquaynted with
I haue dezyred; yow twoo beeng they that I chiefflie
requyre too bee healld in good opinio
n with & that I onely
wyll seeke patronage of in all good & honest causies.
Yowr reaazons for not impugnyng the cassing of forcies heere,
yowr place wayed, I can not but greatly allowe; yet dutie
of my place tyed mee, I tooke it, in conscience too deley=
uer • the thought & in manner sight of the peryll therof
beefore I executed that direction, not vzing yet any
perswasion too the contrarie: By the letters therof of this pack= ett too my Lords there, & too her Maiesties self, the Copie wherof heerepacloazed” I send (crauyng the same to bee emparted to 30’.)
yow shall vnderstande the estate & cours of thynges
heere, * with the purpose & effect of my late iourney intoo Munster.
Yow wryte of a matche toowardes beetwyxt 79* & scot*
if it so fall owte lett 60* looke alyttle better too •••* her* seate
in* 70* or ells shee* maye hap too lyze the saddle.

Towttchyng 80* I knowe not what too saye butt euerie waye eyther in league or allyance* I see
so iust feare of peryll as, Deus auertat, I doo onely praye.
Wee arre heere now entryng into tryall of sutche of owre pryzoners heere as wee fynde too haue moast matter agaynst, wheruntoo, •••* beesydes cause of iustice,
•• •••* & example wee arre the rather stirred by the galle=
tric of the fauourares of thiese rebellius sturres, whow
•• •••* murmure* & haue caused too bee guyuen owte that her Maiestie hathe guyuen direction noane of them too bee toot=
ched for feare of making new sturres & encreazing warre which shee wyll no lenger prosecute, yet heerof woulde I saye nothyng too my Lords nor her Maiestie, least
it would haue been taken a perswazion in mee too hoald on chardgies & allter theyr prezant purposies:
Neuertheless if lawe cast them heere I wyll God wyll make small staye in guyuyng them theyr dezerts for yowr aduycies thence. I praye yow, sir,
lett Sir Lucas Dillon & owre chieff Iustice Dillon bee commended earnestly by yow too her Maiestie; theyr seruice certaynely greatly dezerues it boathe in discoouerie of the practizies & apprehending the parties withowte sparyng any how euer neere them in frenshyp,
kinred or alliance too theyr owane greate hatred & hazard, procure them therfore sum toaken from
her hygghnes that shee knowes it & acceptes of it./
Now Sir for myne owane pryuate, first & chieffliest I commend vnto yow my callyng hoame which beesydes the that yowrslef* most truly & freendly haue conceaued, waye
I beeseeche yow the indisposition of bodie that is coommon on mee by the stoane wherewith I haue been extremely han=
dled & fynde myself greatly subiect vnto it, good sir

press therfore this my sute, for thoughe all oother thynges were awnsswerable, my bodie not seruyng I
can by no meanes dischardge the place. The next is that yow wyll procure mee a sufficient warrant for my due entertaynement that I maye knowe my estate which since my coomyng yet by want therof I could not doo: my Coouenant was this, my dyatt according to the new establisshement, 50. horss. & 100. footmen in paye; and guyue mee all this & wyll I bee, I feare a thowsande pownde loozer: I haue noane to appeale to but yowrsellf; my hastie dispatche yow knowe, & pardon mee to challendge yowr promis, that for all my wrytinges & warrantes I shulld leaue the care to yow; haue consideration of mee I praye yow. •" healp mee onely too my due, I wyll God wylling, ••" neuer trooble her Maiestie with any oother sute of benefitt: Lastly Sir I am too ack= nowledge & render infinite thanckes for yowr greate care & trauayle in ••••• prouyding so well for my niece, god make her lykewyze too her dutie myndefull of this fatherly parte as I trust hee wyll: I haue ij or iij hundrethe powndes of the chylldernes porcioon mooney in my handes, if at this tyme it bee too bee requyred guyue mee knowledge, •" I praye yow, & ••" within one hallf yeare it shall bee readie: I woold bee glad also too knowe the daye of the ma= riadge, but gladder ••" of the newes that I myght bee at it: And thus with my hartyest prayer too the allmyghtie euer too keepe, direct & bless yow in all thynge I take leaue & looue yow deerely. Dublin the vijth of Nouember 1581.

Yowrs most assuredly,
Arthur Grey
Note on hands
The letter is written in Grey's characteristic cursive italic hand, and both subscribed and signed by Grey. The address is written in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand, and the later endorsement in a distinct italic. The note reading 'Mr Secretary' appearing on the verso of the letter (on the same side as the address and, ultimately, the endorsement) is in Grey's distinctive hand, and was added to remind Spenser, or another secretary, that, upon sealing and sending the letter, the packet was to be directed to Walsingham.

* Endorsement Mr Secretary] This word is written apart from the sender- and receiver-side endorsements, and in a different hand.
  * 2 ***** now] Inserted above the line, with caret, above the word 'neuer', which has been deleted.
  * 11 priuat] Inserted above the line, with caret.
  * 21 *] One letter, possibly 's', has been crossed through.
  * 25 heerencloazed] An oblique pointer in the left margin draws attention to this underscored word.
  * 25 30] the Earl of Leicester (cipher identified in other letters using the same system).
  * 27 *] 'k' deleted.
  * 29 79] Unknown reference.
  * 29 scot] This word in code, transliterated above the line.
  * 30 60] The Queen.
  * 30 her] 'her' deleted (with several extra strokes added to conceal the original word).
  * 30 priuat] 'her' inserted above the line in code with a caret mark, later transliterated above the insertion.
  * 31 in] In code, not transliterated.
  * 31 70] the cipher for Ireland (this cipher identified in other letters using the same system).
  * 31 shee] In code, later transliterated above the line.
  * 32 80] Unknown reference.
  * 33 league or allynace] In code, partially transliterated above the line.
  * 38 *****] 'wee' deleted.
  * 39 *****] 'wee arr' deleted.
  * 41 ***** murmure] 'haue caus' deleted; 'murmur' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
  * 61 *] 'k' deleted.
  * 79 *] 'k' deleted.
  * 80 ***] 'tr' deleted.
  * 83 *****] 'procu' deleted (?).
  * 88 *] 'k' deleted.
  * 89 *] 'vp' deleted (?).
  * 91 *] 'y' deleted.

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/keres/haphazard>. Permission to reproduce or adapt the manuscript originals, where necessary, should be sought from the manuscript-holder.