

NA (PRO) SP 63/86/53
Grey to Walsingham, 6 November 1581

Address and Endorsement

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

Nouember 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 Ioorney **that** euer yow made. I perceau 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** memorialls **which** shall not bee long
too & then I dowght not but **the** labour there shall
sheowe a greater buzines too fynde faultes, then good
iudgement too collect iust matter: In **the** meane tyme
yet, my Lord of Leaster hauyng by this priuat* letters vovtechesaued
too gather **the** chieff poyntes 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 beeyng they **that** I chiefflie
requyre too bee heald in good opinion with & **that** I onely
wyll seeke patronage of in all good & honest causies.
Yowr reazoons 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 consscience too dely=
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 therfore of this pack=
ett too my Lords there, & too her Maiesties sellf, **the** Copie wherof
heerencloazed* I send (crauyng **the** same to bee emparked to 30*.)
yow shall vnderstande **the** estate & coursse of thynges

heere, •* with the purpose & effect of my late iorney 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. 30

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. 35

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 galla= ntrie of the fauourares of these rebellus sturres, whow 40

••• ••• murmur* & 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 would I saye nothyng too my Lords nor her Maiestie, least 45 it would haue been taken a perswazion in mee too hoald on chardgies & allter theyr prezent 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, 50

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 frendshyp, 55 kinred or alliance too theyr owane greate hatred & hazard, procure them therfore sum toaken from her hyghnes that shee knowes it & acceptes of it./

Now Sir for myne owane pryuate, first & chieffliet I commend vnto yow my callyng hoame which beesydes the that yowrsellf •* most truly & frendly haue conceaued, waye 60 I beeseetche yow the indisposition of bodie that is coommen on mee by the stoane wherewith I haue been extreemely handled & fynde mysellf greatly subiect vnto it, good sir

press therfore this my sute, for thowghe all oother thynges were awnsswerable, my bodie not seruyng I 65

can by no meanes discharge **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 70
 couldd not doo: my Coouenant was this, my dyatt accor-
 ding 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 **yoursellf**; my hastie 75
 dispatche yow knowe, & pardon mee to challendge **yowr**
 promis, **that** for all my wrytinges & warrantes I
 shuld 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 80
 oother sute of benefitt: Lastly **Sir** I am too ack=
 nowledge & render infinite thanckes for **yowr** greate
 care & trauallye in ••••* prouyding so well for my
 niece, god make her lykewyze too her dutie myndefull
 of this fatherly parte as I trust hee wyll: 85
 I haue ij or iij hundrethe powndes of the chylldernes
 porcion 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 woudd bee glad allso too knowe **the** daye of **the** ma= 90
 riadge, but gladder •* of **the** newes **that** I myght bee
 at it: And thus **with** my hartiest prayer too **the**
 allmyghtie euer too keepe, direct & bless yow in all
 thynges I take leaue & looue yow deerely. **Dublin**
 the vjth of **Nouember** 1581. 95

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 •]** '&' deleted.

* **29 79**] Unknown reference.

* **29 scot**] This word in code, transliterated above the line.

* **30 60**] The Queen.

* **30 ••]** 'her' deleted (with several extra strokes added to conceal the original word).

* **30 her**] '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 allyance**] In code, partially transliterated above the line.

* **38 ••]** 'wee' deleted.

* **39 •• ••]** 'wee arr' deleted.

* **41 •••• •••murmur**] 'haue caus' deleted; 'murmur' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.

* **61 •]** '&' deleted.

* **79 •]** '&' deleted.

* **80 ••]** 'tr' deleted.

* **83 ••••]** 'procu' deleted (?).

* **88 •]** '&' deleted.

* **89 ••]** 'vp' deleted (?).

* **91 ••]** 'y^h' deleted.

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