

**NA (PRO) SP 63/87/32**  
*Grey et al. to the Privy Council, 10 December 1581*

**Address and Endorsement**

To the right Hono  
rable the **Lords** and  
otheres of her **Maiesties**  
privie Councell./

**Lords**  
10 December 1581  
The **Lord** **Deputie** and Coun  
cel.  
On **the** behalfe of **Captein**  
Thorneton

**Text**

It maye please your good **Lordshipes** Forasmuche as this bearer George Thorneton  
Capten of her **Maiesties** Shipp named the Handmayde, is by mee the Lorde  
Deputie nowe lycensed vpon his humble suite to repaire to the Courte, after  
his painefull service and attendaunce at Sea in theis late Warres, as is to  
bee remembred in the Services boathe at Smerwick, Carickfoyle, 5  
Asketin, and Dingle ICushe in Mounster, and otherwise vpon the  
Northerne Coastes of this Lande, for the repressinge of the Irishe Scottes,  
and other voiages diverslie towards the Spanishe Coastes, for escryinge  
the preparacions from thence to bee attempted, And that his contynuaunce  
in this Realme theis xvj<sup>teene</sup> yeares past, **with** all readynes, endeavour, 10  
and loialtie, that hee was able to extende in his charge beeinge the  
onlie man in that callinge for all tournes and services at Sea, that wee  
have to employe; doeth so deserve **our** esspeciall Commendacon, as wee could  
not leave him (in respecte of his greate travayle, paynes & chardgies  
in theis affaires thus susteyned) vnaccompanied **with** theis **our** Lettres 15  
for iuste praise of his desert in regarde of Service; Beseechinge your  
good **Lordshipes** therefore to stande his good **Lords** the rather in eny his reasonable  
Suites there to bee moved before your honors, and to bee meanes to the  
Queenes highnes for his relief to mayneteyne his Estate and lyvinge  
for his further enhablinge; And for that hee of him self can best 20  
declare to your Honors the wantes to bee furnished to her **Maiesties** saied  
Shippe, **which** wee thinck meete and verie necessarie to bee spedelie  
accomplished for to bee in readynes heere for eny accidentes to ensue,  
wee leave the same rather to his declaracion, prayinge your **Lordshipes**  
to speede his dispatche therein: And so **with** remembrance of **our** 25

dewties and humble Commendacions wee leave you to the tuition of the  
Almightie, whoe longe preserve your Lordships to his Almightie pleasure;  
Dublin the x<sup>th</sup> of December 1581.

Your Lordships assuredly to commaund,

Arthur Grey

30

	Robert Dillon	
Henry Wallop	Lucas Dillon	Nicholas Malbie
Iohn Garuey	Edward Waterhous	
	Geffray Fenton	

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**Note on hands**

The text of this letter, including the subscription, is written in a regular and fairly ornate secretary hand (not Spenser's). The signature is Grey's, to which other members of the Irish privy council have added their autograph marks. The address is in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand, and the endorsement in a later hand, probably added when the letter was being filed.

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