

**NA (PRO) SP 63/88/12**  
*Grey to Burghley, 12 January 1581/2*

To the right Honorable my very good  
Lord the Lord Burghley  
Lord High Treasurer  
of England yeue  
this

12. January 1581.

Lord Deputie of Ireland to my Lord

Mr Rawlies vnskilfulnes in setting  
downe a plott to lesser hir  
Maiesties expences.

Blandes slacknes in sending of  
victels into Munster.

Iohn of Desmondes death.

**Text**

My very good Lord having lately received aduertizement  
of a Plott deliuered by Captein Rawley vnto her Maiesty  
for the lessening of her charges here in the Province  
of Mounster & disposing of the Garrizons according  
to the same, the matter at the first indeed offering a  
very plausible shewe of thrifte and Commoditie, might  
easily occasion her Maiestie to thinck, that I haue not  
so carefully as behaved looked into the state of that  
cause & the search of her Maiesties proffitt. Wherefore  
having with some of the best advised of the Councell  
here entred into consideracion thereof, & perceiuing  
many inconveniences with some impossibilities in the  
accomplishment thereof, we have (as by our generall lettre  
to her Maiestie herewith sent you may perceiue) layd  
downe owre iudgementes & opinions thereof: which when  
yt shall come vnto your Lordships deeper consultacion, I  
doubt not, but you will soone discern a differens  
betwene the iudgementes of those, which with grownded  
experience & approved reason looke into the condicion

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of thinges, and those which vpon no grownd but seeming 20  
fancies & affecting credit with benefitt frame Plottes  
vpon impossibilities for otheres to execute. And so  
trusting that your Lordship with the rest will esteeme of both,  
for the re•st\* I will referre you to those reasons,  
which we haue in our said lettre layd before her Maiestie 25  
Furthermore, I haue to complayne vnto your Lordship (whose  
onely redresse I looke for in theise matteres) of the  
great slacknes & default of Bland, in sending  
ouer of the supplies of victelles into Mounster,  
whereof the proporcions are comenly so sclender, 30  
(as I am informed from the Surveyour of the vicetelles  
there) as that all those garrizons thereby are  
very miserably distressed, & almost vtterly starved  
to the very great hinderance of the service.

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And yett I doubt not but he informeth your Lordship 35  
farre otherwise: and therefore I earnestly pray  
your Lordship too looke into the speedy redresse thereof.  
Lastely whereas my Lord Chauncellour & your Lordship haue  
written vnto me touching my payment of the Subsidie  
I haue accordingly taken order for th'answering 40  
thereof. And so for the present committing your Lordship to  
the goodnes of th'Almighty, I hartely take leave  
Dublin. the xij<sup>th</sup> of Ianuarie 1581

Your good Lordships assured to commaund 45  
Arthur Grey

It hathe pleased God too guyue Ihon Zowtche the kyllyng of  
Ihon of Desmond that Artche rebell & traytor, I hard of  
it iij dayes past but this nyght I receaued the certayne  
confirmation therof, & with hym hathe taken an oother notorius  
knaue called Iames Fittz Ihon of Strangalie: the newes I  
trust wyll not dislyke yowr Lordship as well in the pryuate beeh=  
allf of yowr powre kinsmans good hap as of the common good,  
neyther wyll yowr Lordship, I hoape spare, too aduaunce the due  
commendation of the endeuoure too her Maiestie.

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**Note on hands**

The text of the letter, address, and subscription are in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand; the signature and postscript are in Grey's italic hand. The endorsement, probably added during the filing of the letter in London, is in a distinct hand.

\* **24 re•st]** The letter 't' appears to have been deleted.

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