Address and Endorsement

To the right Honorable my especiall good Frend Sir Fraunces Walsingham Knight Chief Secretary to her Maiestie

1581 January 7.
From the Lord Deputy.

Text

Sir, I receaued yeesternyght youwr packet of the xxviiijth of the last, wherin iij letters from youwr self vntoo mee I fownde; the one aduyed mee too dischardge all sutche pencioners as hauyng pencion heere doo remayne there, as Mr Northe amongst those yow name; surely sir I thynck it Verie iust that whow serue not shulld not haue paye, marrie waying that sutche were boathe receaued & continewed heere beefore my tyme & moast of those absents oald & powre seruities whoswe pencioons arre the onely Stayes of theyr lyuyng beesydes that they arre ••••••••
freended & beelonging too one or oother greate persone there amongst yow; & for dooyng heerof hauyng no particular direction from thence, what ***** hard dealyng‘ too the one I shulld sheowe & what dislyke of the oother I shulld reape too yowr owane iudegement I beetake: & as toochtyng Mr Northe in pryuate: (what so euer seruyce I take hym to bee of) his bodie is heere & hathe been this greate whyle; withall I haue receaued no small nor commen Commendations & reque=stes in his beehallf from’ 30.’ which yow knowe I am not too neglect. But for this matter if my letters & instructions by Sir Nicholas Malbie had been considered it woolld haue appeered that I am not vnmyndfull of it, as vppon the same yowr directions thence had no iott shallbee vnexecuted. An oother poyn of the same letter signi=fyethe her Maiesties pleazure too Mr Threasorer for payement of all bylls as well too soldiers as Martcheantes too bee made heere by hym hencefourthe & ‘•’ sutche bylles not too bee sent ouer thyther, truly the order is moast good, but vnless mooney in proportion bee lykewyze ordered too bee sent hyther I see not but that it wyll prooff a shaddoe withowte a bodie. And

heere lett mee remember one thynge that if it shulld bee vzed wyll bryng no small inconuenience I meane the thowroghe paye of Captaynes there theyr Companys remaynyng heere: the Lentlmen that haue the faoure I looue deerely well & thynck them woorthie of greate good turnes, but fynding a generall mischief heerby too fall for a pryuate good, I could not but pryu=
ately guyue yow a warnyng, prayeng withall that it bee not vzed too the displeasure of any of them for that that is past. Yowr second letter chieffly emportyng an awnsswer too a former of myne, yow aduyse mee therin too followe the directions from thence, which truly moast wyllyngly I wyll doo if it bee possyble, which condition I ad beecause the impossibilitie of one direction toocht= yng the issuyn of the late treazure sent was sutche, as what good wyll so euer rests in mee too perfourme it, the courss & plyght of thynges • heere wyll not beare it withowte endane= geryng sutche a stur & discontent of soldior & cuntrie as hardly woold haue been appeazed or recooue= red, hauynge therfore too sayle beetwyxt these extre= mities, sownde meanyng & trust in God beeyng styll my pillows, I chose rather too aduenture myne owane pryuate displeazeure then the generall harme, neyther therin haue I followed myne owane head withowte the aduyce & consulltation of myne assist= ance, as by a packett twoo dayes past (thowg of an elder date) dispatched maye more at lardge •• appeare vnto yow, which heere in shall cause mee now the shorter, neyther therfore woold I haue vzed now any speeatche had not this yowr letter iustly remembred mee of what I had sayed I woold doo in strickt followyng of the same direction, which surely that I myght
not perfourme, withowte the Forsayed hazarde, what grieff & Coombatt in myself it bred my God best knoweth: yea, in trowthe Sir I dezyre to bee directed & as I haue often beefore to the whole •••’ table there made the petition for the same so now too yow as my esspecyall freend in pryue= ate doo I renew the furtherance therof for the tyme that it shall pleaze God too laye the cross on mee of myne aboade heere. And since I am now in hande with these directions it seemes conuenientiest too guyue yow heere* knowledge that Sir Nycholas Malbie signifyethe now vntoo mee that alyttle beefore his arryuall a packett was dis= patched hyther by which It was directed from her Maiestie that all sauyng 3000. shulld bee heere disch= arged & that perceauyng by yow that shee was not too bee remouued from that resolution; hee wysshed mee too see it executed: Now sir it is so that neyther since nor beefore hys departure I haue receaued any sutche letters, which if I had most wylyngly I would haue followed, & truly for my parte (hauyng allreadie sufficiently therin dischardged dutie) wyll I neuer seeke too allter that purpoze or ••••• requyre* supplie, hap what hap maye; but I praye yow haue this in mynde that I haue heetherto recea= ued no sutche commaundment, but hye it hyther as fast yow wyll it shall, God wylyng, with as mootche speede bee fullfylled."

As tootchyng mr ••’ Piphoe, assure yowrsellf that hee shall not
want what I maye doo for hym were hee farder
from yow then hee seems too bee, neyther was my
quarrell vn to hym oother then that I regarded the
eeuyll conceyte that his * wrong enformation myght
haue wrowght in yow too wardes mee, which fynding
not wayed I rest satisfied.
That my testimoniall & commendation of 562 * hathe
been so well accepted with yow I render many thanckes:
how bee it too bee plaine with yow I ha
te of late * founde but very suspici
os dealing * amongst all my best esteemed asso
ciates; * onely heereof I guyue yow a watche=
woord not that I woold haue any quarrell * made
of it, or that I * waye it, for, sana conscientia a brazen
wall; ootherwyze a desperate creature this place
sure woold make one.
Now to yowr last letter; wherby sum dowght maye bee
gathered in yow that I shulld conceaue yow to haue
cuncurred with them that doo condemne mee vnhard;
& agayne that I shulld myslyke too haue the fawltes,
I am there chardged with, emperted vn to mee:
Too the first, in trowthe, Sir, I can not denye but
that sum thyng in yowr former letter stirred a feare in
mee that * * * reporte had sumwhat prejudiced mee too=
ardes yow, the which my neere mynde of yowr good opinio
, & by
greate affection not alltoogeather voyde of Ielousie, *
woold not suffre mee but too make sum sheowe of,
my faulte & error wherin this yowr letter doothe sheowe mee, too
my no small ioye & content, I therfore doo confess & ack=

nowledge eyther & so hoape of remission, eeuyl
yll or distayne hauyng been no causies therof, /
The oother, that I shulld dislyke too heare
of my chardgies, is so farre from mee, as truly I
haue heesthes euer heald it not the least toaken
of yowr firme & true frendship toowardes mee,
acknowleging therby, beesydes the benefitts by yowrsellf
reckned, the man not meaneled armed that is fore=
warned styll, hoald on then I earnestly beeeet=
che yow yowr beegoonne & styll promyzed coursse therin
tyll my dislyke shall allter it, which weaknes of
 judgement or rather meere follie I trust my
God wyll neuer suffre too beefall mee, & for the
same as all oother yowr frendly partes thanckfullnes
in mee shall not lack, however oother meanes
of requytall I maye bee barren of. Heere to
end, I praye yow Sir, as conueniencie wyll suffre
procure Sir Nicholas Malbies dispatche, & therin esspe=
ecally I commend too yowr earnest care my takyng from
this place, & in the meane tyme lett vs not bee made
forlorne peeople boathe for meate & mooney, for in
trowthe Sir, where the fawlte is I know not, but as
scantly are wee handled in owre supplies of
vittayle as of treazure, the extremities arre greate
& so farre beeyonde reatche of bearyng as my lieff
is grieuus vnto mee with it. The Lord bee with yow euer./

Dublin the 7th of January 1581.

Yowrs assuredly euer,

Arthur Grey

Bryan Fittzwylyams liefftenant &
coompanie heere beeyng now dischardged
exclame greatly for theyr paye; whosse
recknyng cast vp hee is fownde neere 200l
quade, wherof I thought good, ••• breesydes hymself too guyue yow onely knowledge
for that I fynde yow looue hym & that wyllyngly myselfl woould not ••• breede hym discredd, which to sallue as mootche as in my lyethe, I haue heere caused the solldiores too bee payed.

& sum creditt of his in the Countrie & ootherwyze too rest
vnaownswered, which too satisifie the onely meanes I see
is that a staye bee made •• in the exchecker there of
so mootche as by a prouysoe in his late warrant for
paye was suspended namely of the encreaze of hys
entertaynement; this extremitie caused mee too
signifie this vnto yow which ootherwyze for the good wyll
I beare the Ientleman I woolld not haue doon: I haue
sent hymself the Copie of his whoale recknyng
vnde the auditors hande./

Arthur Grey
**Note on hands**

The text of the letter, including the subscription and signature, is written in Grey’s characteristic cursive italic hand, with some passages, marked in this transcription, in code. The address is in Spenser’s characteristic secretary hand, and the endorsement in a later italic.

*11 *****] ‘there’ deleted.
*14 *****hard dealyng] inserted above the line, with a caret mark. One word, perhaps ‘wrong’, has been deleted below them.
*21 from] in code, not transliterated. This reading has been supplied by reference to similar examples of transliterated code in other letters.
*21 30] Unidentified.
*29 ••] two letters deleted.
*49 *****] five letters deleted.
*51 •] ‘w’ deleted.
*55 *****] four or five letters deleted, probably ‘meany’.
*56 ****] ‘myne’ deleted.
*60 • • • but] ‘a twoo’ deleted, and ‘but’ inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
*62 ••] ‘ap’ deleted.
*71 ••] ‘tak’ deleted.
*77 heere] ‘heere’ inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
*90 • • • • • requyre] ‘seeke for’ deleted; ‘requyre’ inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
*94 fullfylled] after the letters ‘full’, the letter ‘y’ has been deleted and the letter ‘f’ inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
*95 ••] ‘Ph’ deleted.
*99 •] ‘e’ deleted.
*102 562] Unidentified.
*105 plaine...of late] in code, transliterated above the line.
*106 very...dealing] in code, transliterated above the line.
*107 associates] in code, transliterated above the line.
*108 quarrell] in code, transliterated above the line.
*109 1] ‘T’ inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
*119 •••] three characters deleted.
*121 •] ‘T’ deleted.
*123 wherin] ‘wherin’ inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
*124 doo] ‘doo’ inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
*127 • • • • • • • • • • certaynely] ‘certaynely’ deleted.
*128 my] ‘my’ inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
129 the] 'the' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
130 [frendship] the letter 'i' in this word is inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
132 **] two letters, perhaps 'fa', deleted.
139 **] 'ho' deleted.
147 ********] one word, perhaps 'vitailes', deleted.
158 ***] 'too' deleted.
159 **] 'be' deleted.
163 ]'o' deleted.

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