

NA (PRO) SP 63/90/1
Grey to Walsingham, 1 March 1581/2

Address and Endorsement

To **the** Honorable my
especiall good frend
Sir Fraunces Walsin-
gham Knight Chief
Secretary to her **Maiesty**.

1 Marche 1581
The **Lord** Gray.
To writt to mr Norris
to giue entertainment to
the soldiors **that** are
sent out of **the** realm
into Ireland

Text

Sir Having bene aduertized from **Anthony** Brabazon
now in **the** absence of **Sir Nicholas** Malbey last **Gouernour**
of **that** Province, that vpon the late discharges here
made, he doubted **that** diuise **Soldieres** of this countrey
birth now out of pay, & stragling to & fro, would 5
enter into some bad **Accion**, & raise some new broile no
lesse daungerous then **the** first, the **which** some of them
by speaches had also given out, And having in **that** respect
commended vnto me one **Robert Colom**, who hath here 10
long tyme served as an Officer to diuise **Capteins**
& is knowen to bee a tall Soldier & an honest man
the **which** desyred that he might be licensed to carry ouer
with him into **the** lowe countrey ij or iij^C of those **Soldieres**
as he could levy them; I therevpon tooke advisement 15
with the rest of **the** Councell here, who very well liked
of the mocion, & esteemed yt for very good service to
ridde the Countrey of a sort of such daungerous impes
which considering **the** weakenes of her **Maiesties** forces here
now left, were hable & like to have attempted some 20
mischievous entreprise. Wherevpon we have consented
to license him to transport ij or iij^C or more of them, yf
he may, the same being no charge of accoumpt vnto
her **Maiesty** save onely **the** victelling of ij^C of **them** for xiiij or

xiiij daies, vntill they shall arrive there, **which** cometh not
to above lⁱ. the **which** we thinck well bestowed, to save 25
happily otherwise many fifties. This I have thought
good to signify vnto **yow**, to th'end yt may be made knowen vnto
the rest, & **withall** to desyre you, to write vnto ••* Mr Iohn Norice
favorably in **the** said Collom & his **companies** behalf, (like as
my self also have already doen) that he will yield **them** such good 30
countenance & enterteynement as he there* may. The **which** not doubting
but they will deserve, for **the present** I comitt you to god. Dublin
primo Martij. /1581./

Youres euer most assured,

Arthur Grey 35

Note on hands

Both the text of the letter, including the subscription, and the address are in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand; Grey has added his familiar signature. The endorsement is in a later hand, presumably added during filing of the letter in London.

* 28 ••] 'you' deleted

* 31 **there**] inserted above the line, with caret mark

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