Endorsement

Copy from my Lord Deputy & Councell to her Maiestie.

Text

May yt please your majesty where yt appeareth by your maiesties late lettre of the xxvth of the last moneth, that vpon Informacion giuen to your Highnes how a great part of the Threasure sent into this Realme intended chiefly to answere the wages & interteynementes of martiall men hath bene by indirect order converted to the payment of Concordatums obteyned & graunted contrary to an Article of Instructions sent ouer by your Highnes late Chauncellour of this Realme: your Maiesty fyndeth yt straunge that besides so small regard shewed to your Highnes said Instructions with other abvses noted vpon the maner of graunting & private subscribing the said Concordatums, so little care hath bene had of the Consumpei{on} of your threasure in that kind of Charges, whereby your maiesties debtes are increased & sondry your Soldieres remayne vnpayed; we are bold for your maiesties better satisfaccion & following your expresse Com maundement to send to your Highnes in a schedule inclosed a true report
sendeth a note of al concordatums he hath giuen & content of all such concordatums as can vpon the sodein be collected, & are of most importaunce, & haue bene payde by me the Threasurer, the rest yf any bee are in the Custody of the parties, to whome such allowaunces haue bene given; which concordatums doe conteyne in them selues the growndes & causes of the guift, wherein we assure your maiesty vpon our truth & credittes, that contrary to the tenour of the informacion none haue passed without their due debating at the Counsell table, & the parties & their merittes throughly weighed & examined before any order hath bene giuen for the wryting of any such concordatum, though perhaps some of them were afterwardes subscribed seuerally & privately, euen by those that before were at their first debating: And moreouer as in number they are not so many & in value so great as in former tymes (albeit the tyme of the Accion well weighed might both haue expressed & borne yt yf yt had bene farre greater) So nether are your maiesties debtes increased further, then necessity hath constrayned by consump{c}ion of your threasure in that kynd of Charge nor any of the Army lefte vnpayed, so farre as the seuerrall quantities of threasure sent ouer to those vses would extend & stretch vnto. Neuetheresse we hope your maiesty will consider, that in so great a cause & of such continuauence as this warre hath bene there must be many extraordinary Allowaunces, that haue required present disbursement but for the full satisfacciion of your Maiesty, we humbly desire that ye would cause all the concordatums not payed & that haue growen since the tyme of me the Deputy to be examined by Commissioneres which we wish to bee the informerxes themselues yf they bee of any
for bestowing of rebels lands

[He] hath granted no Custodiams vnder the seale but a lease to Sir William Russel

Lord deputy barred from giuing escheats. inferior officers having authority to doe it in the particular Provinces

4. onely granted since the restraynte.

credit meeete for such trust: To the second part of your maiesties lettre which chiefly concerneth me your Deputy for bestowing Rebell'es goodes & Custodiams of their landes namely since the restreint made by your Maiesty in your former lettres, like as no one thing hath passed the great seale ether since or before (but a lease to Sir William Russell) that might preiudice your majesty in the free disposing of the said Rebell'es landes: So did I not till now vnderstand so much of your Maiesties meaning that the disposicion of the escheated' goodes was prohbited vnto me. for yf I had so conceived of your maiesties lettres, I would haue prevented all euill opinion, howsoever the parties gratified had wanted their due deserved benefitt. But in truth I neuer mistrusted but that I might without your Maiesties disfavoue haue kept a modest course in rewarding of vertue aswell as in correcting of vice. especially whenas your liberality was not extended to the Consumpcion of your threaure, but out of casuall profittes, which in the particulare provinces is warranted by your Maiesty to be giuen away by inferiour officeres & neuer denied to any Deputy heretofore, wherein I fynd my lott very hard that my true service & indevoe here should receive so hard construccion or be so lightly accepted: But fully to resolue your Highnes in the last parte of this Article what Custodiams I haue graunted since the said restraine, it is true that I haue graunted onely fowre the first of Nicholass Nugentes landes to Sir Robert Dillon, the second of Edward Cusackes landes to Captein Thomas Norrice, the third of one Walshes to Garrett Birne viceseneschall to Sir Harry Harrington, the forth of Wogans landes to Mr Briskett, the reasons that moved me were the seuerall desertes of the gentlemen at least as I haue judged of them in their seuerall professions: Mr Norrice hath painfully served your Maiesty since the beginnyng of this warres without reward Birne is an honest discrete Officer & hath lost his blood in your Maiesties service this yeare past: Sir Robert Dillon hath bene formerly
Commended to your Majesty & I suppose wanted not frendship at Court to inhable him to your guifte, Mr Briskett hath served long as Clerke of your Councell & is a gentleman very honest & sufficient. But now yt may please your most excellent maiesty not to hearken to the onely opinion of me your Deputy touching Custodiams but to vs all who doe gather by the weight of your maisties* wordes, that the Informeres of your Highnes haue made yt seeme vnto you, that whosoeuer hath a Custodiam of any land here hath some such estate of Contynuaunce as taketh from you some notable benefitt ether in the sale demise or guifte of the land. But in this their informacion they are ether ma-litious aboue measure or too too ignoraunt: for in trouth;, ytt agreeth both* with auncient Custome here & with reason •••• & most convenient for your Maiesties Commodity, that as soone as any land es cheateth, yt should be presently Committed to the Custody of some person who should see the houses & woodes preserved & the tenantes kept vpon the land (who here in such cases do accustomably runne away) & is bownd to answer the rent to your Majesty as yt shallbe surveyed by your officer, in which Custodiam he is to continue till such tyme as your Highnes or your Commissioneres & officeres might according that Survey lett yt by lease, or that your Majesty did by in-strucion dispose the same in guifte or sale as to you should seeme good. This graunt is called a Custodiam; of this nature are all the Custodiams •••• that haue bene giuen here, not one vnder the great seale, but all in pay by Consent of the Gouernour & Councell, or els by ordinary course out of the exchequer, And the onely advauntage that any man can hope of by having a Custodiam is, that being in possession of the land, he may thinck
3. impositions vpon the pale.

No meanes hath bene omitted that might restryen the soldiours.

[... ] of proclamations and orders [... ] that were taken for Cesse by the [Deputy] and Counsell.

him self one step the nearer to your maisties favour ether in the sale leasse or guifie thereof, whensoeuer your maistie shall dispose the same, which good respect your Majesty accustomably hath to the fermoures of your Highnes revenue in England: yf this be true (as vpon our credittes to your Majesty yt is) what reproche doe they deserve from your Highnes which perswade the disgrace of *** **** *** ***

vs who serve your maistie here, & that in a matter which can no* way be interpreted against your maisties honour and proffitt, And being not done the land must haue lyen waste without any proffitt or Commodity to your Majesty at all. And where in the last claus[e] of your maisties lettr yt seemeth your Highnes is informed of sondry ex-tortions & ouercharges donne vpon the Countrey, by the Soldieres, not withstanding the increasing of their ordinary wages, & your maisties losses susteyned in victelles so as the people through their into-lerable greeuances are entred into a great discontentment & alien-acion of hart; for our partes as we may in our Conscience afore god & in truth to your Majesty safely affirme that there hath bene no provision nor polling which the tyme would suffer or we could conceive, omitted, which might ether restrynge the insolency of the Soldieryes or assure the countrey from vnlawfull & extraordinary exactions; so that our care & dealing may sincerely appeare to your Majesty, we have caused to bee collected & impacketed herewith not onely such proclamations Commissions & Commandementes with their penalties as we thought good to devise & publish for the same but also the particulare maner & rates of the monethly Cesse for the whole garrizon agreed on not onely by vs & the rest of the
Many idle men taken away for ease of the country the way open to complain if any were grieved impossible to avoid all extortions in so troublesome a time.

privy Council but also by the Nobility of the pale & grand Council as here it is termed & in those matters used: wherein carrying a greater care & Compassion of the Country then regard to relieve & ease the Soldiers (as in equity we ought & in times before have bene done) we haue cutt of in every land many numbers of horses & horseboyes which formerly haue bene allowed & by the Country yt self cannot be denied. Besides the way hath bene always free & open to any yea eu’n the meanest to comayne vpon any violence or wrong done contrary to the tenour of the said Proclamations, & present orders issued out to apprehend the offendours to thend they might receive the reward of the evilles they had done. And where further we fynd in the same Article, that extortions haue bene exacted by the Horsemen & footmen, like as we suppose some such disorderes haue bene Committed & impossible in such a time to bee fully prevented. yet yf your majesty consider our proportions for the laying downe of the Cesse (sent in this Packett) yt wilbe found that yt is not our faultes who require nothing but a rate of victell & horsemeat to be brought to the places of garrison and those rates not superfluous, & we appoint payment & prizes for yt according the Soldiers wages. And yf any man thincking to make a better price of his corne or other victell, or lothe to carry his provision to the place of garrison, shall vountarily enter into a compositio with the Soldier* when yt is in his owne choice to deliuer ether his proporcion of Cesse or that Compositio may this be called an extortiner? No surely; & yet yt any such extreme dealing had bene complayned of, yt should haue bene ouerruled & punished in any that had bene obstinate or refused his due Cesse
but yf that none haue complayned here but hath bene heard & redresse giuen, we thinck yt straunge they should presse your 
Maiesties eares with such vntrue rumoures. And here I the Lord Deputy am 
to giue your Highnes knolwdg, that having regard to the fraile & light 
disposicion of this people namely how apt they are to take hold 
of the least occasion that is giuen, expownding all thinges to their 
owne advauntage, I thought good not to Communicate this your maiesties 
lettre in respect of this Article to any other of the Councell, as haue here 
subscribed, least some of them being of this Countrey birth {&) 
interested in sondry partes of the countrey, & inclined indeed mo{re} 
to popularity & private Commodity then to the reducing of the peopl{e} 
to due obedience or regard of the necessity of the service, might 
spreed amongst the people, how farre your maiesty had taken knowldg 
of the outrages of the Soldieres & other informacions made to the 
disavantage of the gouernement & thereby become more insolent and 
carelesse of their due office & dueties: A matter which in this land 
is to Commune & most needfull to be restreynd & mett withall. 
This device as such of the Councell as are vsed alwaies in matteres 
of most importaunce & secrecy allowed for good & consented to 
yt foreseeing the harmes that might ensue yf in so tottering a tyme 
inclined too much to contempt & loosenes the people might take 
advantage of your Maiesties favoure against the due & orderly pro- 
cedings of the gouernment here or in trouth of their owne desertes as 
we cannot but affirme & the eventes too manifestly & ryfely 
doe witnesse. So for these reasons we thought good to keepe 
that article of the lettre concealed emongst our selues, though your maiesties 
direccion was ioynly to vs & the residue, for the which we doubt not ybut 
your maiesty will hold vs excused, or otherwise vpon your pleasure 
signified yt shalbe redressed. And so to knitt vp the 
matter our dueties willeth vs to impart vnto your maiesty, what ex
be remedied but ether by

increasing of the soldiours pay

to iudg herein, namely that in euery imposicion laid vpon the pale, mislikes & grudge will grow in the multitude, which yf your maiesty will haue vttetly raced away, were a great happines to him that should gouerne. But then must your maiesty take one of these iiij waies, ether to giue a through maintenance to your Soldier increasing his pay so as he may live therevpon without pressing the * * * * * Subiect or to pro-

vide such a continuall masse of victelles as may throughly serve the numberes your maiesty shall resolue to keepe or elles that your maiesty would cash your whole forces, & looke for such an obedience as the good disposicion of the people & the execucion of your lawes without force will affoord you in all which your maiesties direccion shalbe obeyed.

Lastly having euen now received out of Mounster the lettre & aduertizementes hereinclosed we are bould to send the same to your maiesty humbly referring to your maiesties wisedome the consideracion of the perill, & speedy remedy & prevencion of further euilles threatening not onely that province, but together this whole vnhappy & wretched land For the particulare of me the Lord Deputy & some otheres seuerally of this Councell, as I haue formerly aduertized my Lords of your maiesties Councell there, that seing by withdrawing your maiesties forces from thence, the province was left abandoned to the will & appetite of the Rebelles, other was not to be looked for, then an vniuersall revolt & breaking out of all partes & a butcherly ruyne & massacre of those few of your Highnes Army left in garrizon there, So the first event of that appeared in
the late slaughtering of Captein James Fentons band, garrizoned in the partes of Carbery & secondly in this Accident of Ardaigh lying in the nether skirtes of Kerry vpon the borderes of Clon Morish, & the like is to bee feared will fall vpon other places 
yf speedy remedy be not applied; we haue presently sent away thetherwardes ij of the old bandes of footmen out of the Pale. And 
though for the small assuraunce we haue either of the Pale 
yt self (the Oconnoures being now in their pride, against whome these ij bandes with the other should presently haue bene impioied) or any other part of this land, we could but with 
great daunger spare any forces from hence; yett considering the distresse of those in Mounster, & how perillous yt may bee in so general revolt & (as may be feared) in an 
expectacion of forreyne powre not to haue the citties there 
manned & furnished, we thought good to comfort them with 
these ij bandes having lefte but ij more both in Leinster & Vlster to answere all occasions, nether yf any greater extremity 

extremity should happen there, is yt possible for me the 
Deputy in this great want of money forces & victelles to advance to their relief. Such is the extremity which 
now this state is growing vnto, which we most humbly betake to your maisties care & consideracion, the rather bycause your 
Maiesty may be informed by th'enclosed lettres what treachery hath bene vsed in Connagh to your Soldieres, that in orderly 
amer have sought to leavy your maisties rent. And so most 
humbly we Committ your majesty to the goodnes of th'Almighty 
Dublin this of May.* 1582.
Note on hands
The text of this letter is in Spenser's usual secretary hand, here cursive but fairly regular. Annotations have been added in the left margin in a very compact italic hand, probably Walsingham's; these annotations are linked to extensive underlining in the text, which is probably also Walsingham's work. The original endorsement appears to be in Spenser's italic hand.

* 10 Consumpci(on] here, as often below and on succeeding pages, damage to the margin of the page has obscured some letter forms. In most cases, we have been able to surmise the missing letters fairly confidently, and have offered these hypotheses in {...}.  
* 48 escheated initial 'excheated' has been corrected to 'escheated' here.  
* 76 maiesties] 'maiesties' inserted above the line, with a colon as mark of insertion.  
* 81 *** • yt] 'for in' deleted, and 'yt' inserted above the line.  
* 82 both] 'both' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.  
* 82 ****] 'here' deleted.  
* 93 ****] 'here' deleted.  
* 103 *** ----- ----- -----] 'your Maiesties honour & profitt' deleted.  
* 104 can no] the words 'can' and 'no' have been written without a break between them; to indicate their separation, Spenser has used a slash, not reproduced here.  
* Annotation Council] damage to the left margin of the manuscript here has obscured some of the text of this annotation.  
* 146 Soldier*] terminal 'es' brevigraph deleted.  
* 179 ********] 'revoked' deleted.  
* 187 ********] 'Soldier' deleted.  
* 217 ****] 'part' deleted.  
* 226 great] 'great' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.  
* 226 ****] 'grea' deleted.  
* 227 **] 'gr' deleted.  
* 234 this of May] this blank was apparently left because the letter was copied before the date of the original had been fixed.

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