Endorsement

Copy of Thomas Meagh
his lettre to Iames Meagh
alias mac Kedagh Omoore.

xvij° Maij

1582

Text

IHS Marya.

The Chieuest cause that I send this bearer into Irland {at}°
this tyme was to see you and to bring me some money
yf he can gett yt; I am assured to be inlarged very
shortly after my Lord of Kildares Coming ouer, so that the wan{t}
of money to pay, for my fees & other extraordinary Char{ges}
wilbe a great lett; I haue written a lettre to Walter
Ashpoll to lend me xli sterling vpon my stuffe vpon
my stuffe 'that he hath in his handes; he promised be
fore my Coming away to lend me somuch, yf I had
written to him. I thought he should haue had mo{re}
of my corne money in his handes then xli besides
the payntes that I willd him to make. Yf he doe refuse to send yt me, send you for him & be earnes{t} with him to lend the same & charge him with his promis{e} and putt to your helping hand your self. Truly xl{h} powndes •* wilbe the least, that will carry me freely home; yf the money that was due vnto me with Rory Downe before my Coming away, or the frutes of the last Harvest of the Vicarege of Rathangan bee taken out of my handes, be you earnest with my Lord Deputy to cause the same money to bee restored agayne & sent me by this bearer and to tell him of the great neede & pouerty that you vnderstand I am in: truly good brother farre greater yt would haue bene, were yt not for my wives brother, who hath very eftsones supplied my wantes bee earnest also with the Gouernour to wryte to Mr Secretary Walsingham in my favoour. I meane neuer to serve the Earle of Kildare agayne, yf you had knownen how he hath dealt with me both before my Committing and since, you would marveile that I did not requite his vsage of me, having such a tyme as I haue to further any thing that I would say against him.

there bee many reportes of me, but the truthe wilbee knowne to you very shortly. I hope to goe ouer with the newe gouernour, and yf you handle the matter well with my Lord Gray to wryte earnestly in my favoour, there is no mistrust of my going
in credit. **Your case & your** name of the Moores is better known vnto me, then to **your** self, such was the care I tooke of you in the tyme of your trouble. I omitt to say any more of the matter, till yt please god wee mee; keepe yt to your self. I haue no mistrust yt god lend you life before the end of three yeares; that **your** credit with **your** presence shalbe such, as you shalbe hable to pleasure all the frendes you haue. I haue written very lately before this vnto you; bee careful to **performe** the contentes thereof. keepe your self well from being in the danger of ij of your neighbours the first lettre of their surname is H. & M, they are accustomed to cary poison & suger together in their mouthes; a sufficient warning to beware of them. I pray you challenge my brother Pane for dealing so vnfrendly with me. I haue written sondry tymes to him, making choice of him of all other frendes & to this howre I hard nothing from him or any elles in Ireland since my Coming, but our lettre from my mother in law. he will say he durst not wryte vnto me, but he might a written to my wife, whereby I might understand how I am dealt with all in my absence. but I mistrust that the cause is fearing that I should know of the base mynded man Walter Eustace his dealing with me touching the vicaredg of Rathangan. I will say nomore till **this beareres** retoune, which I looke for in all hast I pray you procure it with as much speede as may bee.
Provide a couple of good horses for me against my Coming; I meane to attend daylie on the governour when I come there, which attendaunce I hope will grow to your proffit & myne. It is not knowne certeinly who shall goe but the eleccion is betwixt Sir Henry Sidney & Sir William fitzWilliam. This I take leave with my wives loving Commendation & myne &c./ May xvijº 1582./

Your assured brother during life

Thomas Meagh.

Ex. Edmund Spenser/
Note on hands
The text of the letter, apart from the marginal annotations but including the subscription and (copied) signature, are written in Spenser's characteristic secretary
hand. Spenser has also added his signature in the certification appended to the end, and endorsed the letter in his italic hand. Grey has added marginal annotations
in his usual hand on the second page of the letter and, it seems, has underlined some of the text.

* 2 [at]} this word is slightly obscured by damage to the right margin of the manuscript (also affecting a few subsequent lines of the text), but given the context is
undoubtedly 'at'.
* 8-9 vpon my stuffe] Spenser's slip here – repeating a phrase in copying – is a common scribal mistake.
* 17 •] a single character has been deleted.

The transcription of this text is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial Non-Derivative 3.0 License (see http://creativecommons.org/). You are free to download this transcription, but may not use it for commercial purposes, and must attribute the transcription to the authors, Christopher Burlinson and Andrew Zurcher, and to 'Hap Hazard: A Manuscript Resource for Spenser Studies' <http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/cheres/haphazard>. Permission to reproduce or adapt the manuscript originals, where necessary, should be sought from the manuscript-holder.