Address and Endorsements

To the right Honourable our very good Lords and others of her Highness privy Council/

Lords

10 July 1582
The Lord Deputy and Council.

Text

It may please your Lordships: Since the departure of Sir Nicholas Malbye with the Erle of Clanricard, whereof wee formerly enformed you wee have received advertizementes from him of a gathering of a greate force of horsemen Irishe footemen and Scottes, vnder the leading of Con ODonnell (but being for the more parte of the retynewe of Turlough Lennoughe,) of purpose to invade Connaght and to make their entrie vpon Oconnour Sligoes Coutrey, to prevent which and to strengthen Oconnour / Sir Nicholas sent presentlie suche englishe forcies as hee hadd to those partes, and proclaymed an hostinge of that Province to withstand the purpose of those of Vlster, butt the Province beeinge drawen into many partes with pryvat quarrells have not vsed eny dilligence in the rysinge out or fidelitie one to another, whereby the Scottes have entred
and spoyled the Countrey, as in the inclosed Lettre from the Governour maye appeere. Hee demandeth aide and reliefe from hence, which wee have nott to geve vpon eny soddein, for if wee shoulde remove theis fewe in the Pale which are placed for the prosequution of Th'oConnours wee give open waye to the spoyle of the whole Pale, or if wee shoulde direct the forcies in Mounster, which nowe are imployed vpon Desmond and FitzMorice to resorte to the aide of Mr Malby in Connaght, wee shoulde give scope to the Rebells of Mounster to spoyle all the Countie of Kilkenny, as they have alreadie Tipporarye./

This draught or device of Turloughe Lennoughe tendeth to this (as wee can gather) to withdrowe her Maiesties forcies from the action againste Th'oconnours and dothe make more playne thatt which wee have longe founde in his disposicion and have often advertized, to accepte euery oportunytie thatt hee can finde againste her Maiesty beeing no waye provoked with eny offence of discurtesye to the valewe of a heaire, and therefore if eny bee thatt have perswaded your Lordshipes that the Irishe woulde lyve in quyett, if they weere not provoked maye see his errour by this outrage of Turlough Lennough, which is as wee take it, butt the beginnyng of the Northern troobles.

Wee perceave also by other privat Lettres, that Sir Nicholass Malbye hathe beene so rebuked in England for layinge charge partelie vpon hir Maiestie butt moste chiefly vpon the Inhabitauntes in his rules vpon suche like* extremeties, as hee will not attempte to stoppe this soddein mischief without warraunt, by eny charge to bee layed vpon her Highnes or the

or the Countrey. And therefore as wee have alreadie given him aucthoritie to vse his discretion for this service: So are wee to crave her Maiesties resolucion from your Lordshipes what shalbee don for the suppressing of thies violencies, and the necessarie defence of the good Subiectes especially of Oconnour Sligo, whome
wee esteeme one of the soundest of all Connaght, for the streight
wherevnto wee are dryven by the restraynt given by her Maiestie nott to
encrease eny extraordinarie chardge and the necessitie of the Service
dryveth vs to this extremytie, thatt whatsoever wee see convenient, wee dare
nott yett resolve vppon eny thinge without her Maiesties expresse direccion./
Finally, becawse your Lordshipes may also bee informed of the state of the rest of
Connaught, wee sende you the Lettre, which John and Vlick Burke have sent
to Sir Nicholas Malbie, after they had parlee with theire father beesides
Galway, whereby yee maye gesse at theire insolencies, and howe farre
they bee from the Condicicion of beeing Pledgies, and howe farre different
from theire fathers opinion of them, appearing in his Lettre to Sir Nicholas
which wee sende your Lordshipes also incloased./ What your Lordshipes shall
nowe resolve for the Erle, wee wolde gladlie knowe, beeing willing to
followe your direccions therein, butt if hee bee restrayned till his sonnes or eny
of theim shall yeelelde them selves to prison, wee thinck hee shall neuer inioye his
Libertie, and therefore have suspended the revoaking of him to Dublin,
notwithstanding your late direccion: Hee is nowe at Galwaye sicke
of the Iandies, and attended by some of the Governours servauntes, att whose
request and by Sir Nicholas advice, wee have graunted pardon to his sonnes
if they will accept it. Whatth her Maiestie shall resolve in bothe theis
cawses, and especially for the matter of the invasion, wee once agayne praye
your Lordshipes presently to wryte And so committ you to the Lorde.
Att Dublin the x:th of Iulye 1582.

Your Lordshipes assured to commaunde./.

Arthur Grey

Adam Dublin cancellarius

Henry Wallop   Lucas Dillon

Edward waterhous:     Geffray Fenton
Note on hands
The letter is written in a neat secretary hand (not Spenser's); Grey and members of the Irish Privy Council have added their autograph signatures. The address is in Spenser's usual secretary hand, and the later endorsement – probably added when the letter was being filed in London, is in a distinct hand.

*32 suche like* the secretary has filled the line with a flourish.
*40 streight* the secretary has again filled the blank remainder of the line with a flourish.

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