

**Hatfield House, Cecil Papers 11/91**  
*Grey to Burghley, 6 April 1581*

**Address and Endorsement**

To the right Honorable my very good Lord the Lord Treasurer of England. /

6. April 1581.  
The Lord Deputie of Ireland  
to my Lord by Mr Dillon /

**Text**

I render yowr good Lordship many humble thanckes for yowr letter by Mr Fenton; it gladding mee very mootche too fynde styll the contynewance of yowr Lordships good •\* wyll & faouere toowardes mee which truly my Lord I wyll euer cheerisse what in mee lyethe, & hathe allwayes been esteemed of mee far beeyonde the sheowe. 5

As tootchyng Ned Dennys reporte, I meruayle what came in his head too deale any waye in a••\* matter which in no sorte any hys instructioons tootched, & so mootche the more It woonders mee that in a thyng concernyng yowr Lordship his ouershootte shuld happen, Whowme greatly too honor & reuerence I allwayes; that yowr Lordship is satisfyed with my assertion therin it contents mee mootche, & surely but ryght yow yeeld mee in it, which yet very thanck= fully I take. 10

Yowr Lordships care for owre relieff with vittayles can neyther bee denied nor goethe vnack•nowleged\*, & I woold too God that vnder officers had been as carefull yn the executyng as yowr Lordship hathe euer been fownde in the directyng. 15

Of the later proportions appoynted too coome hyther wee haue not as yet receaued any, but contrarietie of wynde wee fynde too bee the cause; & I praye God, whan it doothe coome, too send vs honest ministers for the issuing of it, which is no small trowble & grieff vntoo vs heere, whow see daylie the nawghtiness & abuse of the officers & yet can not redress it. / 20

The little seruyce in Mounster I can not alltoogeathe excuse, & yet my Lordship there hathe been more doonne then I perceau is conceaued: for my parte withowte it bee of sum importance I take no ••\* delyght too aduertiss of euerie common persons head that is taken of, ootherwyze I could haue •\* certyfyed of a hundrethe or twoo of theyr lyues ended since my coom= 25

yng from those partes, but in deede sum hinderance it brow= 30  
ght too the greater seruice that the garrisoones could not remayne  
in sum of the places appoynted fyrst of by reazon that theyr  
vittayles could not bee so readily conueyed too them as was  
hoaped of.

As tootchyng the imperfections of the bandes surely my Lordship it hathe not fallen 35  
so mootche •\* by the Captaynes defawlt as by the eeuyll choyce of men sent  
hyther whowse lazie dispositions & vnable bodies guyue ouer beefore they feele

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trauayle or at the least vppon the first prooff, but beesydes an essepe 40  
cyall cause hathe happened this wynter eeuen from the beeginnyng  
heere amongst all owre garrisoons, a generall feruent or ra  
ther pestilent ague which in deede\* not puld downe but allmost hathe  
spoyled the bandes, Gods sufferance it is, & hys good pleazure I trust  
wyll bee agayne too cease it; but onece thowrogly with a good  
choyce supplied, as I perceau yowr Lordships there haue allreadie  
guyuen direction for it, I hoape in God, too see them heere 45  
after in better state mayntayned.

Where yowr Lordship thynckethe the perill of this State too lye moast in  
forrayne aydes, I no whytt varie from yowr Lordships mynde; but yet dowght 50  
I not so mootche any forenar that westward shulld attempt, as Northe  
warde, in case the Scottes maye bee accounted forenares, for heere sure{ly}  
hathe, doothe & wyll daylie more & more growe the disquyett & mis  
chieff of this lande, if speedely it bee not looked vntoo & preuen{ted}  
as often I haue certyfyed thyther; Too ••••\* force the rebell from  
the sea syde ••\* wee neede not for the inwarde cuntrie ••is\* hys owane see{k}  
yng, fynding there all his relieff & sustenance, & all owre trau 55  
ayle is too dryue hym too the coastes where neyther fastnes for hymself{f}  
nor succoor for his create but sielldoome is fownde: the garrison of  
the Dingle was not layed so mootche for the annoyance of the rebell as  
the •••••\* empeatchyng of forayne landing, & ••\* for the auayle of  
the cuntrie seruice is thought now meete too bee drawn too Castle 60  
Magne there beeyng the verie Isthmus that deuydes Kerrie from •\* Clanmorr{ice}

Connalaghe & Desmonde, wheraboutes the rebell Earl hathe moast  
parte this wynter wallcked; & so mootche in the better rest, for that Ihon  
Zowtche hyssellf was with sicknes browght too deathes doore, & the  
whoale garrisoone beesydes so vizited as there were not left among 65  
them xl. able bodies, but eare summer goe, I hoape in God; yow  
shall heare that ennemie ootherwyze too bee layed vntoo, if yowr Lordship  
with the rest hoald on yowr fauourable care in supplying owre lackes &  
esspeccially of vittayle.

Tootchyng remouyng of Collman heetherto I haue hard nothyng, but 70  
it so fall owte, in that or any oother thyng, yow shall fynde  
at yowr Lordships direction.

The reasonable good estate of Connaghe throwghe Sir Nycholas Mallbies  
late good seruice I dowght not but yowr Lordship is acquaynted with by my late  
aduertisments too yowr Lordship there of the same; & so mootche in awnsswer of 75  
yowr Lordships letter.

The occasion of this beare, Iustice Dillon, hys sending ouer is this:  
 I was wylled by yowr Lordships of the Councell in a letter receaued now by Mr Fenton  
 too procede too the tryall of the meaner pryzoners heere that stande end=  
 yghted: Wheruppon considering with sum of my associates & too them ad= 80  
 ding the learned councell; of whowme in trowthe I fynde this the very  
 sufficientiest & no less honest withall, wee fownde twoo greate incon=  
 ueniencies in the cause of ordinarie tryall; the one that no sownde iurie  
 could bee hoaped of; the oother, that thowghe they were cast, yet all benefitt  
 that therby was too fall too her Maiestie of goods, landes, or possessions, by 85  
 deedes of guyttes & former conueyancies is cleene wyped awaye; these  
 extremities hath stayed my executyng of yowr direction, tyll I had  
 aduertised therof; & the onely healp that wee see in it is a parlament,  
 for the solicytyng wherof & further instructyng & resollyung\* of her Maiestie & my Lordships  
 in any scruple that therabowtes maye ryze I haue sent this Ientleman, 90  
 whowme, I earnestly praye yowr Lordship too further, countenance & fauour,  
 not dowghtyng but yow shall ••\* fynde hym woorthie of it.  
 Waye well, I beeseetche yowr Lordship •\* the loss not deuoyed of dishonor too her  
 maiestie, & •\* greate preiudice too the whoale cause, if these me{n} {...}ff\*  
 or lyuyng shuld goe acquyted by vniust bearinges & {...} 95  
 dealinges, & thereafterforwarde the healp with a speedie {...}  
 So commending the rest too the bearares credit, & myself in an(...)  
 I maye assured too yowr Lordships deuotion, I take leaue for this tyme,  
 prayeng the Allmyghtie God euer too keepe direct & prosper yowr Lordship. /  
 Dublin this vj<sup>th</sup> of Aprill Anno 1581 / 100

Good my Lord beare with mee if not so often Yowr Lordships vnfaignedly too  
 as myself woold & yowr Lordship maye expect, I doo commaunde,  
 visitt yow with letters of myne owane, that  
 infinitenes of my toyle passethe my Arthur Grey  
 ableness too perfourme my dezyre therin; 105  
 dutie acknowleged. /

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**Note on hands**

The text of the letter is in Grey's characteristic italic, subscribed and signed with his usual autograph. The address is in Spenser's secretary.

- \* **3 •]** 'f' deleted.
- \* **7 ••]** the word 'any' has been reduced to 'a'.
- \* **15 vnack•nowleged]** 'n' inserted above the line, with caret mark, above a deleted 'w'.
- \* **27 ••]** 'ly' deleted.
- \* **28 •]** one or two (illegible) characters deleted.
- \* **36 •]** Single-character (illegible) deletion.
- \* **41 deede]** inserted above the line with a caret mark.
- \* **53 ••••]** 'seeke' deleted.
- \* **54 ••]** 'to' deleted.
- \* **54 •• is]** 'for' deleted and 'is' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **59 •••••]** 'awnssw' deleted.
- \* **59 ••]** two-character (illegible) deletion.
- \* **61 •]** 'y<sup>e</sup>' deleted.
- \* **89 resolluyng]** '& resolluyng' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
- \* **92 ••]** 'to' deleted.
- \* **93 •]** 'y<sup>t</sup>' deleted.
- \* **94 •]** 'y<sup>e</sup>' deleted.
- \* **94 me{n} {...}ff]** Damage to the manuscript, covering this and subsequent lines, has obscured the readings.

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