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 Threasurer of England.

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

Text

I render yowr good Lordship many humble thankes for yowr letter by Mr Fenton; it gladding mee very mootche too fynde styll the contynewance of yowr Lordships good 

wyll & favoure toowardes mee which truly my Lord I wyll euer cheerishe what in mee lyethe, & hathe allwayes been esteemed of mee far beyonde the sheowe.

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 shulld 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 thanckfully I take. Yowr Lordships care for owre relieff with vittayles can neyther bee denyed nor goethe vnacknowleged, & I woolld too God that vnder officers had been as carefull yn the executyng as yowr Lordship hathe euer been fownde in the directyng.

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 issuyng of it, which is no small trouble & grieff vntoo vs heere, whow see daylie the nawghtiness & abuse of the officers & yet can not redress it. / The little seruice in Mounster I can not alloogoethe excuse, & yet my Lordship there hathe been more doonne then I perceaeus is conceaued: for my parte withowtete 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 coomari
As tootchyng the imperfections of the bandes surely my Lordship it hathe not fallen so mootche * by the Captaynes defawlt as by the eeuyll choyce of men sent hyt whore laszie dispositions & vnable bodies guyue ouer beefore they feel

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

Where yowr Lordship thyncketh the perill of this State too lye moast in forrayne aydes, I no whytt varie fro yowr Lordships mynde; but yet dowght I not so mootche any forenar that westward shulld attempt, as Northe warde, in case the Scottes maye bee accounted forenare, for heere sure{ly} hathe, dooth & 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 certifyed 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 ayle is too dryue hym too the coastes where neyther fastnes for hynslef{f} nor succoor for his create but sielldoome is fownde: the garrisoon of the Dingle was not layed so mootche for the annoyance of the rebell as the ***** empeatchyng of forayyne landing, & •• for the auayle of the cuntrie seruice is thought now meete too bee drawen too Castle Magne there beeing the verie Isthmus that deuydes Kerrie from • Clanmorr{ice} Connalaghe & Desmonde, therabouts the rebell Earl hathe moast parte this wynter wallicked; & so mootche in the better rest, for that Ihon Zowtche hysselff was with sicknes brought too deathes doore, & the whoale garrisone beesydes so vizited as there were not left among them xl. able bodies, but care 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 & esspecyally of vittayle.

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

The reazonable 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 yowr Lordships letter.
The occasion of this bearar, Justice Dillon, hisy sending ouer is this:

I was wylled by owr Lordships of the Councell in a letter receaued now by Mr Fenton too proceede too the tryall of the meaner pryzoners heere that stande endyghted: Wheruppon considering with sum of my associates & too them ad=

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

deedes of guyftes & former conueyancies is cleene wyped awaye; these
extremities hathe stayed my executyng of owr direction, tyll I had
advertised therof; & the onely healp that wee see in it is a parlament,
for the soliciyng wherof & further instructing & resolluyng’ of her Maiestie & my Lordships
in any scruple that therabowtes maye ryze I haue sent this Ientleman,

whowme, I earnestly praye owr Lordship too further, countenance & fauour,
not dowghtyng but yow shall ••’ fynde hym woorthie of it.

Waye well, I beeseetche owr Lordship ••’ the loss not deuoyed of dishonor too her
maiestie, & ••’ greate preiudice too the whoale cause, if these me{[n} {[...]}ff
or lyuyng shulld goe acquyted by vniust bearinges & {...]}

dealinges, & therafter forwarde the healp with a speedie {...]

So commending the rest too owr Lordares credit, & mysellf in an{[...]
I maye assurred too owr Lordships deuotion, I take leaue for this tyme,
prayeng the Allmyghtie God euer too keepe direct & prosper owr Lordship. /
Dublin this vjth of Aprill Anno 1581 /

Good my Lord beare with mee if not so often Yowr Lordships vnfaynedly too
as mysellf would & yowr Lordship maye expect, I doo commaunde,
visitt yow with letters of myne owane, that
infinitenes of my toyle passethe my

ableness too perfourme my dezyre therin;
dutie acknowleged. /
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 •] 'T' deleted.
* 7 ••] the word 'any' has been reduced to 'a'.
* 15 vnacknowledged] '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 deed] 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 •] 'ye' deleted.
* 89 resolluyng] '& resolluyng' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.
* 92 •] 'to' deleted.
* 93 •] 'ye' deleted.
* 94 •] 'ye' deleted.
* 94 me[n] {...}ff] Damage to the manuscript, covering this and subsequent lines, has obscured the
readings.

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/keres/haphazard>. Permission to reproduce or adapt the manuscript originals, where necessary, should be sought from the manuscript-holder.