

NA (PRO) SP 63/91/17/2

Copy of Sir Warham Sentleger to Grey, 24 March 1580/1

Endorsement

Copy of Sir Warham
St legers lettre to my Lord Deputy.

24^o Martij.

Text

My duty done to your Lordship. Your honnours lettres of the 17 of Marche I received
23 of the same and wher in that your lettre* you require me to haue acare
in that sence of the Governore here, I will accordinge to your Lordships Commaund
do myne indevoure therin, aswell for the dutye and good will I beare to
your Lordship as for the love I beare to the gentlemene At whose handes I 5
haue found that Corteouse vsadge sence my Commynge hether, as he
hath iustly bound me to doe for him* whate lyeth in my power
Lamentinge mvch that he ys lefte so bare here accompanied with souldiours
as thenemy groving in such streinthe, he shall nott be able to answeere
the service he *** hath good will to doe. The remedye wherof your {Lordship}* 10
hath to provide for, or otherwise to revoke him hence for yt wilbe
vnpossible for him to goe throughe with this service, with so small
a number of souldours as ys appointed for him: I protest befor god yf
the service were to be layd vpon me: I would rather take my Choise
to lye in the Towre of London as prysonere duringe my lyfe 15
(so it were not for offendinge her Maiesties lawes) then to take in hand
this service vnder .1800. footemen and 300 horssemene, for whosoeuer
taketh the matter in hand vnder that nomber will nott end this
rebellyone: My resons to proue this my writhinge I stand in
opynion will nott be denied of him that hath deepe iudgment, and 20
knewledge of this Countrye
The tymes paste and the tyme nowe are note lyck nor the Rebellyone
for in former rebellyones ther were allwayes Rowlandes for Olyvers and
nowe they be for the mooste parte vnited in one Consorte and that in {afine}*
knotte. 25
What hath happend here sence the* Governours departure hence, I haue at lardg{e}
nowe written vnto him to be imparted vnto your honnoure for that I would
not trouble your Lordship with atediousse lettre.
Wher my sute made vnto your Lordship for freedome of the poore Countrye
of Kyrycurrye from Cesse, is by your honour denied me, for that the 30
same would breade greete inconvenience to the service, and greete
dyscontentmentes to the rest of the Contryes charged with the* Cesse vnder
correctyon and not offendinge your Lordship yt is noe Cause why eny
Countrye should be offended yf the same Countrye be exempted*
for yt was neuer here before Cessed butt allwayes freed by all deputie 35

Gouernours that haue bene here in this Realme And therfore my trust is your honour will deale no harder with me in this Case, then others haue done

And yf I may not haue ••* your Lordships freedome of the Country from
cesse the tenants must be forced to departe the Contrye leauinge yt 40
waste, and therby neither Townes nor souldiours to haue eny releef
oute of yt: And so an inconuenience* to both I humbly than{k}
your Lordship for the helpinge mee to an end with my Lord of Kildare
I will hold yt •••• ••* agood torne done to me during lyf
and thinke my self bound to your honour for yt. And so I 45
humbly take my leaue wisshinge your honorable Successe
in all your doinges from Corke this 24 of Marche 1581.

Your Lordships at Commaundment

Warham Sentleger

†**Note on hands**

The text of this letter is written in a loose secretary hand, not Spenser's. Damage to the right margin of the first page, and the folio binding of the letter on the second page, has obscured some readings. Some letter-forms—particularly initial 'l' and 'd'—are indiscriminately deployed for majuscules and minuscules; we have been liberal in normalizing practice. The signature is in an angular italic: possibly an attempt on the part of the secretary to reproduce Sentleger's own. The endorsement is written in Spenser's mixed hand.

* **2 lettre•**] single-character deletion, perhaps 's'.

† **7 him•**] there appears to be a blot, or an illegible single-character deletion, after this word.

† **10 ••••**] 'good' deleted.

† **10 {Lordship}**] this word has been completely obscured by damage to the margin of the letter, but is clear from the context.

† **24 afine**] this word is partly obscured in the cropped/frayed right margin of the page, and the reading is not wholly certain.

† **26 the]** 'y^e' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.

† **32 the]** this word is written with a very disorderly pen-stroke.

† **34 exempted]** the 'm' in this word appears to be written over an original letter 'p'.

† **39 ••]** 'my' deleted.

† **42 inconConvenience]** *sic*: a curious instance of scribal reduplication.

† **44 •••• ••]** 'good yt' deleted.

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