

NA (PRO) SP 63/79/24/1
Copy of Grey to the Queen, 22 December 1580

Endorsement

Copie of my pryuate.
to her Maiestie . /

Text

That thinges concerning **the** descrying of hollow & faithlesse hartes to your Maiestie bee revealed nothing dislikes mee, but **that the** crime should light vpon some such as is now touched, pardon I crave yf to sorrow yt I cannot deny. The state of **the** cause at some length by a generall **lettre** from vs of your Councill here is deliuered vnto your Highnes with such writings & instruccions by **the** berer as conteyne **the** growndes of our proceedinges in yt. The Lord Chauncellour his great pollicie & intolerable travaile to **the** great empairing of his health and no lesse perill of his life hath Chiefly yf not onely beaten out this matter. I therefore humbly beseeche your Highnes **that** he maye have his deserved thanckes: I feare the indisposicion of his bodye will enforce his license for a moneth or twoo; surely Madam yf it so fall out, as my self, I confesse shall receive a Chief mayne in my assistaunce so will your Maiesties service here in diverse behalves receive no small hindraunce{.} I could therefore very earnestly wish, & most humbly too doe commend **the** weighing thereof to your Maiestie that a skilfull Physicion were with speed sent to Chester, **the** lack whereof is his vndooing, and not possibly can he contynew thus here without seeking remedy by better skill; to your Maiesties gracious care therefore I bequeath yt. The Bishop of Dublin like wise hath shewed no small trouthe and Constancy in this service having not a litle endangered him self by avouching his Charge against **the** Earle. Delvin surely hath bene **the** Carrier of **the** Earle into this mischief, whose obstinate affeccion to Poperie hath now approved him vnsafe to him self, vnsownd to Frende disloiall to Prince & false to god. such is the yield of such seede, **which**, would to god, were not so plenty in this land: your Maiestie •* must be carefull therefore to roote yt out, otherwise without heapes of Care, masse of threasure &30 continuall warre neuer accoumpt to sway this gouernement. Your Highnes at my leave taking, gave me a warning for being strict in dealing with religion, I have observed yt, how obediently soeuer, yett most vnwillingly I confesse, and I

doubt as harmefullye to your & godes service, a Canker neuer receiving Cure without corrosiue medicines.

I have not bene hable to doe any thing vpon the Rebeles here since my Coming out of the west, for entending to this cause: but god not letting, immediatly after the xij daies I will
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abrode agayne, neither in the meane season shall some bandes
bee idle, neither have they beene all this while, for this

last weeke with 200 footmen & 80 horsemen Captein Russell and Sir Henry Harrington leading the horsemen & Sir William Stanley the footemen, wee took from vnder their fastnesse
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1000 of their kyne, & had the killing of a doozen or twenty
of their kearne and Galloglasse.

The North is reasonable quiete, & Tirlogh a gentle calm Prince since the fortes taking. /

An viij daies past Asketin in Mounster was attempted to bee surprized and the Rebeles had gotten into the base Court and cutt of one of the watch & reached the Castle gate forced the lockes therof, & were entring, when Parker the Constable with his ward onely renning to the place stode yt & by force and great valure repulsed them. Desmond his self hath in
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maner no force. Iohn his brother skulkes vp and downe the woodes with a 300 swordes & now is said to bee on his retourne into these partes. /

Connagh is in greatest sturre now of any province of this land ClanRichardes sonnes & O Wrourk being the heades thereof. Your Maiestie in my opinion might doe well to vse some threates to the father in case by a day he cause them not to desist from their rebellious Accions & come in. But I hope in god that Sir Nicholas Malbey with the forces that by this he hath will make short worke against them.
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This beeing all that at this tyme I have to trouble your Highnes with, saving that yt may please the same to remember the poore Souldieres with a thorough pay, & vittailles from tyme to tyme,

which is our other killing want, I take humble leave with
70
continuell praier to the Almighty god to give your Maiestie
length of life, euer health & direccion of his spirite.
Dublin this xxijth of December 1580. /

Postscript. As I was Closing vp hereof I was aduertized from Sir
Edward Moore & Captein Mackworth whome I had sent 75
to take the Earles sonnes, that the Lord Garratt was escaped
in what maner the letter yt self shall shew, I having
herewith sent your Highnes the same. The Earle tooke
this in merveilous grievous sort & prayed earnestly
that he might bee suffered to wryte to my Lady his wyfe 80
for the recouery of him, which I graunted. /
Your Maiestie hath here of Sir Lucas Dillon a merveilous good
and faithfull servaunt a rare iewell of this Countrey birth
I beseech your Highnes that he may know his desert to have
bene recommended . / 85

Copie of my priuat.

¶**Note on hands**The text of the letter is written in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand, here very regular and legible; the two exceptions are 'Postscript' and 'Copie of my priuat.' at the end of the main text, which are in Spenser's italic. The endorsement is in Grey's own italic hand (see the endorsement to the enclosing letter, NRA/PRO SP 63/79/24, which is also in Grey's hand).

29 •] T' deleted.

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