

**NA (PRO) SP 63/84/12**  
*Grey to the Privy Council, July 1581*

**Address and Endorsement**

To the Right Honorable the **Lords** and others of her **Maiesties** {p}rivie Councell. /\*

1581 **Lordes**  
Iuly .10.  
receiued 15.  
From **the Lord Deputy** of Ireland  
my **Lords**. /

**Text**

It may please your **Lordships** as in my laste **lettres** of the viij<sup>th</sup> of Iune, I gaue your **Lordships** some reconing of the Successe of my iorney, till that day, So now I thincke to proceede in the same cours, to lett you vnderstande the rest **whiche** hathe fallen out in my retorne towerdes this cyttie: The ix<sup>th</sup> of Iune, I **departed** from Wexforde, towerdes Rosse, and came thether the xj<sup>th</sup> day, leauing my campe, vppon the5 skirtes of the baronye of Simolins, a countrey possessed by Oceon **mac Caier** Cauenaughe a confederate **with** the rest in this rebellion, thoughe not so malitious, as other of his surname, who as soone as he hearde of my approching that waye repaired vnto mee, desiring fauour, and pardon, and alleaging for him self, that the cheif cause of his vnduetifullnes, grew in reuenge of priuate iniuries offred by the gentlemen

of the countye of Wexforde; vppon his submission, and pledges, **whiche** he presently put in, yt was thought meete to receaue him to grace, The like offer was made and pledges put in, by Moroughe oge Cauenaughe, for all the Cauenaughes of the baronye of Idron, whose **pledges**, weare deliuered to capten George Carew at Leighlin: But while thes submissions weare offred, I caused the Sessions 15  
begunne at Wexforde, to be continued at Rosse, and finding that some of the **principall** gentlemen of that countye of Wexford, had confederated **with** the rebelles, and namely the best of the whole shier **Nicholas** Deverox, who had publicquely, confessed before mee, and the whole assembly, matter worthy deathe, I caused him to be arreigned, and although the most **part** of the iurye heard his confession, and the matter so 20  
plaine, and evidente, as yt could not be denied, yet soche was there vnsounde dealinge as they did most affectedlye acquite him, a plaine euidence to me how curruptly all causes for the queene are handeled, in the absence of the gouernour, when ••\* in my presence so greate an abuse was offredd: In the ende of the sessions I receaued from therle of Ormounde, three notable malefactors, whome he had<sup>25</sup> apprehended not longe before, namely Richard Butler, base sonne to **Sir** Edmounde Butler, Ferdoroghe Pursell, and his brother, very infamous for there ill doinges, Butler, because his offences weare in **parte** comitted **within** that countye, was arreigned, and condempned there, but his execucion staid, because I would faine matche him, and the rest, **with** equall number of the Baron of Vpperosseries 30  
wicked kinsemen, whome I expect to bee put also into my handes: /  
At my departure from Rosse, towerdes Fearnas, the remaine of the Cauenaughes

of the septe of Arteboye, offred submission vnto me in my campe, by Donell Spanierde there capten (so called because he was in Spaine **with** Stewkeley), but standing vppon some vnduetifull tearmes, weare not receaued, neither did they 35  
keepe promise in there retorne vnto mee: And because they had fledd there goodes **without** daunger of the Soldiors, the rather by meane of a floode suddenly risen by an extreeme raine, they did the rather absente them selues. But

while they had their eyes upon me and my campe, Capten macWorthe by my  
dereccion, came through the county of Caterloughe upon them, tooke a greate 40  
praye, slewe xvj. of their men of warre, and to the number of lx of the poore  
people. In **whiche** he lost a gentleman of the countrey, one of the Garraldines  
(Garrett Fitzmorice) whose father, and brother, are detected of greate treasons  
and prisoners in this castle, and he being also somewhat touched labored to recouer  
his credyt vnder Capten Macworthe, **which** he had done by diuers seruices emonges 45  
the omoores, and oconnoures, and now at this encounter **with** the Cauenaughes lost  
his lief by a very smale wounde in the thighe, supposed no way mortall, or  
daungerous:  
At my passing by Fearnas, I receaued pledges of the freeholders of the  
Kinsheloughe, and suspecting that immediatly after my departure, some attempt 50  
would be made upon the county of Wexford, by the sept of Artboy, I left  
some force there vnder Masterson and Sinnott, to make hedd against them  
who **within** a day, taking the Cauenaughtes, at an aduantage, slew to the number  
of 17. and tooke three notable prisoners, **which** on wednesday laste they presented 55  
vnto mee, at my campe in the Birnes countrey: And so leauing those partes in  
a reasonable stay of quietnes came to the border of the Glinnes the xx<sup>th</sup> day of  
Iune, encamping neere to the forte, **which** I before builded at Castle Commin, In  
that place or neere vnto yt, I continued my campe till the xxvij<sup>th</sup>, euery day  
hunting the Glinnes, burning first all the habitacion, on the easte parte, and  
then put certein bandes through the Glinn, to the West parte, and burned 60  
and spoiled, all their howses, and Cabans, and brought a pray, out of  
the midst of the fastnes, **which** was verye desperatly defended by the space  
of 2. or 3. howers, but not **without** losse to the rebelles of some of the  
best of their horsemen, 10 kearne, and 30 otheres, and **with** litle hurte to ours

or none at all: In **whiche** meane time Fraunces Stafforde, **with** the garrisons of the countye of Kildare, annoyed greatly the rebbells in Shileloughe, as by the note **enclosed** appearethe: /

65

After that Feaghe **mac** Hughe, had founde him self, thus earnestly followed, & the garrisons planted, so were in his bosome, he wroate vnto me\* trouce for peace, but his **lettres** so arrogante, as though he would haue yt none otherwise, but to haue70 therle of Desmounde, and all other his confederates contened in yt, aswell as him self, and required, that in effecte, all the rebelles of Leinster might depende vppon him, and vse whate religion he listed, In conclucion when my victualles failed and that I founde cause to looke somewhate into the doinges of other **partes**, and

75

that I might also accomlishe the dereccion, geuen me for the publishing of the proclamacions, I settled three garrisons, the one at Artlow, the other at castle **Comm**in, and the thirde at castle Kevan, and in eache place, **200** footemen and **50** horsses: and appoincting also two other garrisons vppon the West **part** of the Glinne, and directing them to **observe** certaine daies, and times, when eache garrison might aunswere other, •• and attempt the Glinne in sondry places at once, I\* hope that god will geue shortely suche successe, as may banishe them the place, or driue them to suche a [80 submission, as shall carrye **with** yt some probability of obedience heereafter, for **without** soche compulsarye meanes, I do not finde, that the offer of a **pardon** to him coulde preuaile, so well confirmed is he by Rocheforde, and other popishe Instrumentes, to follow his oathe, & obedience **which** he hathe sworne, & vowed to the **pope**

85

While I haue bene thus occupied in this Iorney in Leinster, I heere that therle of Desmounde, hauing all the **forces** **with** him, that depended vppon the erle of Clancarre, the Barries, and all the euell disposed in Mounster was assembled, to the **number** of **1600** men in therle of Clancarres countrey **which** collonell Zouche, vnderstanding ••\* thought bothe his owne bande and90 capten Caces, weare very muche dishabled, by deathe, and Sicknes, and the supply not then come vnto them, yet he resolved to seeke out the erle, and so passing from Dingle in Kerry, to castle Mange, he traueyled all night and in the Dawning of the day, fell vppon the campe of therle, not so sodenly

but that he was a litle forewarned, by suche as weare in the colonelles company, 95  
 But yt pleased god so to deale for him, as therle escaped hardely with lief, iiij<sup>xx</sup> of  
 his company slaine, whereof xvj principall gentlemen, and him self hurte, (as  
 yt is reported, and so scattered their company, as they are not yet assembled  
 againe, as farre as I learne, The englishe in thende of the chace, encamped  
 in the same place, and leisarly returned to their garrison, without enny losse 100  
 of enny one man, but iiij<sup>or</sup> horses hurte: In this enterprise, The chaunter  
 of Limerick, being a tall horseman, who came out of Spaine, with Iames  
 Fitzmorise, and one of the greatest confirmers of them in the ..... popes\* cause,  
 was slaine, by the colonell his owne handes, who is greatly lamented emonges the  
 rebelles, bothe for his profession, and also his aliance emongst them. /105  
 It hath also pleased god to put into my handes, one Roberte Fitzmorise fitzgarrett,  
 a studente, that hath ministred the oathe, to all the confederates of Leinster, and  
 Mounster, who guided Iohn of Desmounde into Leinster, and wrought the vnion  
 betweene him, and Feaghe mac Hughe, and being also an execucioner of greate murders  
 with his owne hande, did the day before he was taken, murder the vndersherif of the 110  
 countye of Dublin, and was apprehended, throughe the practise of Capten Macworthe  
 by his owne brother, the same gentleman that I declared to be slaine by the Cauenaughes  
 in the late iorney made by Macworthe, I haue not yet had leisar to examine  
 him, but he remaineth close prisoner, in the castle of Dublin: /  
 Vppon the discharge of therle of ormonde, from the gouerment in Mounster, I addressed 115  
 thether 50 horsse, vnder the leading of Capten Norreis, and deuiding the garrisons  
 into diuers partes, I gaue in euery parte, order to the Captens to follow the rebells in  
 certeine circutes. Sir William Morgan for the borders of the county\* of Waterforde\*  
 and the easte parte of the country of Cork, accompanied with Capten Norris, Capten Peers  
 and Capten Rawleyes bandes, Capten Apseley, for the parte which liethe betweene 120  
 Kinsale, and Baltimore, Sir George Bouchier, with the prouost marshalles  
 horsemen, and two bandes of footemen, for the plaines of the county of Limerick,

and the woodes adioyning to the towne of Kilmallock, Capten Barkley for Coniloughe, and Colonell Zouche, for Kerrye, and Desmounde, In whiche state they are to remain, till either yt shall •••\* like hir maiesty to sende<sup>125</sup> thether a presedente, or els that I may haue lesare to visit thes partes: /

From Vlster, I heere for Certeine that iiij<sup>or</sup> of the kinge of Scottes garde haue brought to Turloughe Lennoughe, and to his wief presentes from the kinge, of apparell, and other giftes, That Odonnell is sworne to aide him with men, but not to sturre in his owne persone, and that Turloughe hathe vowed to sturre heere, if anny attempt shall be made, by Scottlande, against Englande. 130

Connought is very quiet, sauing orworke whose countrey hathe of late bene invaded by Sir Nicholas Malbey, by meanes whereof, there is some likelihoode of his submission, vppon whome yt is thought, the proclamacion now to be published of generall pardon, may somewhat preuaile, because all his confederates within that province haue geuen him ouer, what effecte yt shall otherwise work in generality, your Lordships shall know shortely, For that I purpose presentlye the publishinge of yt: 135

Lastely I haue to declare to your Lordships, that where the Mayour, and diuers of his bretheren of Waterford, did with greate vehemency follow an accusacion, against their Bisshop for Sacriledge done in the churche there I called the matter in question before me at Rosse, where all parties weare presente, and by examinacion of the matter at large yt appeared manefestly, that the bisshop was malitiously sought, bothe by the citzens and the deane, and their faultes being made probable vnto them, so as yt coulde not be denied 140

the counsell ordered, that the citzens weare fined to beare the bisshops Charge of C<sup>th</sup> markes and by publique proclamacion to be made in all citties, and townes, and namely at Waterford, in presence of the Mayour, the bisshop to be acquitted of the slaunder, raised vppon him, whereof I thought yt conueniente to enfourme your Lordships: And so not hauing farther to enlarge at this time, do comytt you to the Lorde: At Dublin the of Iulye 1581.\* 145

Post script. In the proclamacions now published, I haue  
by the advise of the counsell, allowed that  
the Seneshall of Imokelly, may take the  
benifyt of the pardon, if he will, and haue  
also excepted certen other of the most notable  
of the rebelles \*\*\*\*\* and in a schedule heerewith Closed155  
haue sente your Lordships the names of them, and added the causes, why in reason they  
are to be excepted, meaning neuerthelese (vnlesse your Lordships shall geve order to the  
contrary) vppon their submissions to receaue some of them to grace.

Yowr Lordships most assured too  
Commaunde,

Arthur Grey

150





¶ **Note on hands** The main text of this letter is in a compact and very regular secretary hand (not Spenser's); the subscription and signature are Grey's. The address is in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand, and he seems to have added the words 'Post script' to the main text of the letter in his distinctive italic. The final element of the endorsement ('my Lords', printed here under the endorsement) appears to be in Grey's hand, and probably represents a note left for Spenser, who sealed and addressed the letter.

\* **Address {p}rivie Councell /.]** the removal of the letter's seal has defaced this corner of the address.

¶\* **23 ••]** Something similar to 'in' deleted.

¶\* **69 me]** 'me' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.

¶\* **80 ••...once, I]** 'and' deleted, a comma added after 'other', and the long phrase 'and attempt...once, I' inserted above the line, with a caret mark. This is clearly a case of eyeskip during scribal copying.

¶\* **90 ••]** 'bo' deleted.

¶\* **103 ••••• popes]** 'queeness' deleted, and 'popes' inserted above the line, with a caret mark.

¶\* **118 the county]** Because 'the' and 'county' have been placed so close together, a light slash (not reproduced here) has been inserted in the manuscript to divide them.

¶\* **118 Waterforde]** Original 'Wexforde' has been overwritten as 'Waterforde'.

¶\* **125 ••]** 'kik' deleted.

¶\* **149 the of Iulye 1581.]** A space has been left here for the insertion of the day, which was not subsequently added.

¶\* **155 ••••]** 'andin' deleted.

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