

NA (PRO) SP 63/90/31

Copy of Edward Butler to Waterhouse, 24 March 1581/2

Endorsement

copy of
Edward Butlers lettre
to Mr Waterhous
24 Martij

Text

As I haue bene accustomed to declare my griefes vnto
my frendes & therevpon to crave their frendly assistaunce
the same course I now follow vnto you, which I trust to bee of
my chiefest frendes, as alwaies I fownd you. So yt is
now a dayes that vniustly I poore Edward Butler sonne⁵
to the late Iames earle of Ormond & Ossory am expulsed
out of such inheritaunce, as the said Earle my father lefte
me, & also out of such landes, as I haue purchaced in fee or
otherwise, I am also spoiled of such my goodes as her Maiesties
enemyes haue not taken from me, my death is sought by my
neighboures, A sort of traitourly develles, I do meane the
Archbishop & Kenedies; the one of them is a periured turnecote
and the rest a sort of traitoures & traiterous budes. I cannot
for shame lay downe the vnkynd dealinges of thearle my brother
although he sought to misvse me & to make me a banished
man & also my death. The inheritaunce & purchase above
mencioned his Lordship tooke from me, but he neuer had servaunt
kinsman or brother, that euer stood him in better stead
in ouerthrowing his enemies & defending of his countrey
& doing that as should bee to his proffitt then I, my brother
Edmond onely excepted. You would scarce beleeeve what
iniuries I receive of thArchbishop & Kenedeies, & howe
shamefully they are for brybes borne out against me. The
Archbishop doth seeke to banish my self & my people out of
the countrey with threatning or taking of goodes wrongfully
from vs, & seeking by all naughty meanes my hinderaunce to
satisfy his cancred mynd: he is a fitter Captein for doges
& Devell then for Christian people he hath led my brother
Sir Edmond hether to burne my house about myne eares
as he threatned he would, he procured a warrant from my
Lord my brother to take this house from me, & direccion therevpon
to my brother Edmond to assist the Sheriff in executing of the

same, my brother sending to me, willing me to avoid **the**
towne I desyred respitt of ij monethes, to carry my stuffe
with me here hence & offred to my brother a pawne worth vij^C{^{li}} 35
for deliuering of **the** towne at ij monethes end, **which** was denied

by my brother **the** Archbishop & Kenedeyes: the sayd Archbishop
& Sherief sought after **that** to assault & fyre my hous, were
yt not for feare they should lose thereby more then they
might gayne, my brother left me **without** taking any order for 40
my security, not**withstanding** my seuerall **lettres** sent vnto him for
the same So therefore I am to beeseech you to bee a meane to
my very good Lord **the** Lord Deputy for to receive me to his Honours
tuicion **with** my goodes landes & such my men as I shall give
the Gouernour notice of their names, & a **lettre** to my brother Edmond 45
to lett me cary such stuffe & thinges as I brought hether &
caused to be brought, and they from henceforth lett me live
in quiett. Then I shall thinck my self greatly bownd vnto
my Lord & I shalbe hable to give attendaunce to serve against her
Maiesties enemies. Shew my grief & petitions to my Cosen Mr 50
Zowch, & I know I shall not want his assistaunce in any
thing to doe me good. So **committing** my self to my **Lords** tuicion
I leave to trouble you any further **with** my harty **Commen-**
dations **the** xxiiith of March -1581

Your loving poore frend 55
Edward Butler

Good Mr Waterhouse I must leave **the** countrey vnlesse
my Lord Deputy doe take some order for my security, there is
no man **that** would putt vp these iniuries I receive but
my self. I would sufficiently revenge these thinges, were 60
yt not for feare I should be thought to behaue my self
in any vnduetifull sort. they could vse no Rebell worse
then they doe vse me. I will prove **the** Archbishop & viij
of the Chiefest of the Kenedeyes to bee **Traitoures** be-
fore **the** Gouernour but in **the** liberty Court I will say no- 65
thing, for **that** there **the** Sheriff & otheres for money & kyne
will sett them at liberty, although they nor **that** Court
haue nothing to deale in these thinges **without** her **Maiesties**
Commissioneres. **Commend** me I pray you to your bedfellow.

□**Note on hands**This letter is written in Spenser's characteristic secretary hand. The single endorsement is apparently in Spenser's italic hand, here quite cursive, while the reproduction of Butler's signature is in his more careful italic hand.

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