

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Cotton Caligula C III f. 61r - 62v. William Herle to Lord Burghley.

Letter text:

[fol. 61r] xj April. 1571 From William Herle to the Lord Burghley.

Touchinge *Malachias*, he shall write unto your Lp: to desire that he may Come to your presence, for so he hath entreated of him self before Alledginge that he hath somewhat to say unto your Lp, whereupon your Lp sendinge for him secretly by the back waye, with gentlenes he is to be won & with promise of his former promotion for he is ambitious and obstinate and hath entred into some displeasure with the Spanish Ambassador. In somuch as he would utter all he said, Yf he refused nowe to help him for whose cause onely it is which displeasure of his might be aggravated (if your Lp thought so good) ministringe as it were some sharpnes & contempt procedinge from the Spanish Ambassador./

Touchinge *Ramsdon* no doubt he is an apt man to do some greater feate against the late Earle of *Westmerland* or any other if he [Cherished] which may not onely discouraige any rebell when he is no where safe from his Prince but expresse a wonderfull vigilancye in every action that her Majesty and your Lp dothe intend, onely he hath bene a longe suyter from *August* hither, lesing all that he hath and as yet is differred Supposinge that *Master Governor* hath reaped the frute & praise of there travells without deserte of his side./

Touchinge *Charles* he is the Scotts Q.s man and pretendes to be of the lowe Countrey But I as learne secretly is indeede a Scott speakeng sondry langwages easely deciphered he is one of the onely and secretest Ministers that the Q. & the Bp. of *Rosse* hath and a practiser in all there ill dealings in *Flanders* and that way where he hath continued these 4 yeres well nigh. both very dere to his Mistris and the Bp of *Rosse* as also with the Spanish Ambassador. He hath dealt nowe & dothe from tyme to tyme with our Rebels beyond the Seas & with the Duke of *Alva* & is privie as may appeare withall her Confederates of this side bringinge over nowe sondry writings [fol. 61v] writings which be dangerous as I heare and intercepted by the Lord *Cobham*, Wherefore if your Lp do presently Comitt him to close prison with some secrett token to the keper that I may have accesse to him I hope to discover any parte that is in him which in weyeinge of his nature & disposition for so shorte a tyme I suppose easely Compassed, for he is fearefull, full of words, glorious, & given to the Cup, over whome I have already won some good degree wisheinge us beyonde the Seas, or if I would goe I should want no friendship of the greater sort./

Touchinge *Swavingham* there appears to be some owtward discontentment betwixt him and the Spanish Ambassador: which is Canningly fed for to disguise some matter thereby as is thought./ Nowe to discover him fully Master *Gilnns* hath as a zealous man to his state & of good experience in the Lowe Countreymen shewed some good desire to enter in with him with whome he hath ancient familiaritye and is greatly requested to be still with him In all which parts It may please your honor to give me instrucccons & Comandement what I have to doe & when to repayre to your Lp againe. /

