

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Cotton Galba C IV, f. 390r - 392v. Simon Jewkes to William Herle. This document has been severely damaged by fire along the right hand side of the edges. Jewkes also continues his writing perpendicular along the left hand side of his letter on f. 390v. On f. 392v the script is upside down on the page.

Address leaf:

[fol. 392v]

[Superscription:] To my vearie frinde master William Herle gentilman geve thies in London At the howsse of master johnson in Redcrosstrete in London

[Endorsement by Herle:] Dated the xjth of julye 1573 [receved] here [1 word expunged] in London the 18. of awgust following from Simon jukes./

Letter text:

[fol. 390r] Laux deo ad 11 ia July 1573 in Delfft

Sir my hartie comendacons premysed to you, to master jonson & t[o your] Syster, his wiffe, etc. Thies maibe to sertiffie you that u[ppon] thursdaie morning the princes power or the moste [...] of them went to have putt victuells into harlem which of [...] tyme hathe been in greate distresse for lack therof [...] gonne poudre, they wente in vearie good order being [...] one nation as other a goodly compaignie but beinge [...] undiscretly ledde weare putto flighte & spoyled boathe [...] armour, Weapon, apparell, & a greate number of theme [...] yet nothingsomany as the brute Ronneth for manny [...] weare dispersed hither & thither even to the brill, [...] tergonde, dorte, Rotterdam, as to other manny & divers [...] places, & nowe crepe owte againe like the wilde beas [...] owte of a bushe when night comethe; and the disor[der] Leadinge, as the most souldiers & captens, Reporte [...] that they weare brought unto th'ennemys trenches beffor [...] the breke of the daie at Leste and owre that th'on cou[ld] not descerne thother so that it was confused for th'on cou[ld] not se th'others velt teyken or cullers of the filde [...] that tyme which was [...], & that more is men credibly Rep[orted] that thennemy had that Lyke cullors, & Leuose, or watch[...] which was Elyzabethe & the cullors White, & the velt h[...] or krye in the filde was orange which thennemy had a[...] & the throughe divers weare overthrowen, & it hath [been] childishly done in myne oppinion to lest their velt st[...] & wache words to be all one soe long mighte after m[...] as master grene & others say it was nowe thre, nightes [together] every man crieth, owte of that night service or exploite so darke as it was & at 2. of the clock and the n[...] & principallest affirme that it was Monsieur Seratz do[...] or perswation for he & others led the waye & cried on [...] still, but being then come to theeffectinge of the exploite [...] Suddenly Retire havinge discharged upon thennemy o[...] [towers] thennemy affarre of as many man saie, & then cher[...] the footemen on then also agayne they gave a fresh char[ge] but suddenly noeman knoweth why. they withall haste Retyr[ed] upon the footemen withowte anny heare being hurte and [...] violently Ranne they emongest & over our owne men & brake [...] their arraye over threwe them Ranne over them brewsed them[...] & made them to abandon their weapons & Ranne awaie [fol. 390r] And left the footemen to the spoyle of thennemy with [...] Lokinge backward especially

the [maffs] or highe dutche Then thennemy encontringe with the Lorde of Batenof [...] Seratz, & carlon spoyled them, as the L. of B. was sho[t through] his shoulder & unhorsed, but his more woulde have [...] up agayne but coulde not he being of hyme sellf [...] & the moare because of his armor & wownded so then [...] hathe hym deade or a lyve, but is judged deade, the good capitein carlon was then slayne, & seratz h[...] & Lasarus muldes capteyn of the Royters Dutches[...] And divers other hurte but many slayne no[...] taken ^of the Roytters^ & many Royters hurte by our footemen because th[ey] Ranne over them ‡ [marginalia by Jewkes : To saye howe many ar slayne in all I knowe not for the fighte was as afforesaid to so many [...] & so farre placed that yet they are not come together & many will never Retorne agayne, to [...] jir auncient for ther is noe gouvernement, noe head, noe boddy but a hedles campe, & divers more [...] ... the sea, Rovinge yn otherwise [...]the merchant, well I [...] but with [...]] There wente not owte 600 english[...] men to this exploite, for capten yorke & his compaignie [...] by ordinance Remaine in the rage & divers other of oth[...] bands, as also master morgan, gascon & pers & theire men in the hage & other stragglers which alwaies absente them selves from service in townes & villaiges / Thies ar slayne or take[en those] of acquaintance & knowne, Capten ower, master hull m[aster] Roberte Chester capten chesters brother / Thancient berer of master morris, master Lee his clarke and divers other gentilmen & souldiers, but gilpin is Lyvinge and soe I prairie you tell his father and many hurte & Rydden over by our owne Ruyters as master Charles chester and divers others & a greate nomber ranne awaie only in theire shirtts & others withowte hose & divers muche moyled, but as yet I knowe noe nomber missinge for that they are not come togethers all as yet / But the prince hathe appoynted all his campe a place of assembly to Resorte unto & to Repaire allthings agayne at Lederdorpe & in villaiges therabowts every nation a parte / and it is credibly Reported that ther is an other generall of the filde by the prince appoynted which is a frencheman nowe of late come over sethens monsieur de L'orge he was callonell under grave Ludowick as the voyce goethe an experte man (wherof we have nede) his name I knowe not, nowe have the spanyards space enoughe from Harlem to the hage withowte Lett, for our Leger was abandoned uppon thursdaie nighte & I suppose is yet soe, because of th'appointment of thother place on th'other syde Leyden / as the dutche worde is our whoale people have droncken newe beer ost Jonck bier en daer deur het loop [...] god send them onlie beare that they maybe more stabler & not to shit in theire breches & Runne awaie as often they have done, & that some honor maybe achieved to their countries & to the comon cause./ [fol. 391r] For the vearie evill oppinion of the souldiers towards the [...] the concept of treason makethe them to Ronne awaie wher [...] is, god graunte them better affiance in hym, for let it be tr[...] lack of skill (wher unto I most attribut it) yet if men wo[...] have stande to their defence they had loste fewe or none at [...] for by the crediblest Reports ther came never 40 horsses of [...] ennemys to the chase nor 200 footmen & our men had above wagons for their savegards from the horsmen, & our men [...] on th'ennemy willingly & not thennemy on our men unaware [...] men ought to have made ther defence with the wagons agai[n ...] the horsmen but tomuch hast marred all, they lefte 40 [...] wagons behynde them & Ranne awaie with the mares, left th[eir] victuells poulder & matches behinde them which shoulde have bee[n] putt into Harlem / as also 6. or 7. basses & 2. brasse felde p[...] which they had with them & never used them nor spoyled the poulde[r] but left it to th'ennemy matters of greate simplic[ity] and coulde not be ansswerd by the governors & captens o[...] examyned beffore wise & honorable but the prince is not [...] nor obeyed in any thinge, nor doethe [1 word expunged] ^anny^ justice ^at all^ so that all men[...] crie owte therof & also said the states are traictors, and h[...] apprehended of late [...] as paul buys was fownde at R[...] god knows wherfore & the borgers carried hym prisoner to [...] but the most parte cried kill kill

hym but comynge to the p[...] was set at Liberte / also the borghemastre of Leyden being me[...] withowte the towne, was broughte to the prince as prisoner[...] was incontinent discharged, god staie thies, suspitious un[...] justly as I dowbt not but some are // I wroate yow a lre l[...] sence & wroate you Largly my mynde of some things as th[...] you maie perceave & toching the bell mettell this is guest[...] abowte it by the states so that it Remaynes as it was / h[...] wher in my laste I wroate you that divers Reports weare made b[...] to your deserved frindshippe as I judge, I ame nowe urged [to] wrighte you matters of Importance which touche the quick[...] I hope you are well hable to ansswer them & will, ells it were p[...] of your lyffe In betrayenge your contremen yf you so far[...] shoulde excede your comyssion as master morgan hath toulde [the] prince you have done, & that more is denyethe your doings and [...] his owne lres to the prince in that behalffe saienge you have counterfaicted his hande & Seale, thies words spoke the prince to me monthe to monthe uppon fridaie laste beinge yester[day] in presence of others uppon occation, but I Replied to hyme saienge it shoulde never be perceived to be true, in which oppinion the prince was also as he said, & that he was not well delt ^with all^ in that behalffe nether thoughte ther had been sutche dealings emongest men **[fol. 391v]** where the gopell is preached towards princes or men of he[...] but howe that woulde be ^well^ ansswerd yf his majestie knewe it, he[...] not well, well said he I can goe noe further but [...] contracte & to his lre, he toulde me he had sent fo[...] three tymes but he woulde not come, but said he [...] Intellygens that one capten piers & capten gascon have b[...] hym therunto, but said he capten piers by Reporte of souldiers went awaie with 2000 gilders of his mens he [...] we neade to complayne / the prince marveled at the strang[...] Consideringe th'ennemy gaped to devoure harlem & us [...] but said he he doubted not but that god woulde otherw[...] dirrect things althoughe he drewe back & therefore made noe accompte of hym if neade shoulde be but said tyme will try it wher unto it will growe then further said he knewe not what I judge of suche a Regiment, for capten chester also woulde not serve under the Regyment of morgan, yet said he master herle toulde me otherwise & master chester being with hym I askinge hym by master herle whether he woulde ye or noe & he by words in englishe said yea, as master herle toulde me and by his owne words & Semblance I perceived said hee [...] his meaninge was suche, & nowe he is chaunged, but he hoped that things woulde be otherwise considered of ‡ [marginalia by Jewkes: presence of two of them one a capten & thother a lieftenant to a capten & I in presens & thies words spoken unto me to declare unto you with divers others discourses duringe almost halff [...] arre, which did not a litle greve me to heare but ar [...] to be written, and [...] bere you] The prince said also that the complaynts of oppression & violent spoylinge of the boores came to hym in such number & order that he coulde not bringe things to passe as he desired for the well usinge of our men, in generall for almost anny towne will Receve them, wheras afforetyme men Requested if they had anny to have englishemen / o Lorde helpe us for thies Reports are to trewe I have sene tomuche with myne owne eyes that I Acknowledge my sellffe to be noe englisheman beinge in compaignie unles they knowe me, I woulde you had never meddeled with them, but that is my affiance you are gittles herin & can ansswer it to their shames, & not to be fownde to be a conterfaictter of hands & Seales & deseaver of you cowntremen / I woulde have you use this matter wisely & sircumspectly for it is evill for a marchant beinge owte of his contrey & emongest suche me[...] to faule into their hands for they pas litle for the misusing of a man, yet spare not to tell the truthe for I will (if nede be) sett foote to foote & justiffie that thies are the princes words and that in that **[fol. 392r]** Synce the begynninge, herof as also yester[night] [...] Comynge to towne I harde credibly Reported [that] those of waterlande uppon dimerdick have so[...] thennemy uppon fridaie that ther are many of thenn[emy] slayne, & manny Italyans freshemen taken, which [...] the Ranynge awaie of our men

as afforesaid [...] not only assalte harlem but allso the dimer [...] but god be thanked to their greate hinderan[ce] & the prince hath the newes of 3 galleys taken [...] many men slayne, the nomber uncertayne & bes[...] serten smale horses or victuelles so that the weke [...] weste wynde our men are gott uppon the diem[...] meer & th'ennemys fled or Retired to a co[...] which beinge trewe beffore longe the prince will up agayn all his compani gather[e]d to gether I thinck he hath but toe many [...] to prosper./ his brothers grave Ludowick f[...] sertayne comethe alreadie forward, you knowe he[...] hath been Longe a comynge god graunte [...] mani once come to satisfie peoples my[...] for they alwaies Longe for hym that is to come & n[...] contentted with that they have, the most of the be[...] of delfft, Rotterdam are slayne which wear[...] princes beste frinds, what are the Reste I [...] leave for haste to wrighte anny moare presently, if a[...] thinge be written & not trewe thinck that I doe m[...] beste & have vearie narrowly enquiryed for the tr[...] & have presentlye as it weare seane & felte them for g[...] not farre from them at the doinge therof but I than[k] god & the tyme I came some enoughe ‡ [marginalia by Jewkes: agayne our suite to the Q. Majesties counsell for some Recompence for our true service & the losse of our goods not doubtinge but the equitie of our sute the smale prejudice to the comon weale well considered [...] consumynge sute & well deserved service which all the worlde are witnesses of & our mysery [...] some pitefull consideracon, to thencoragement of others which I doe [...] that for thequitie of the cause, you know all our overthrowen therby] faile no[t I] praye you to sende thies twoe or thre wo[...] herinclosed to my wiffe or sende for hir that [...] be not feared with this Rumore & I will de[...] it god willinge, thus in haste fare you w[...] as my Sellfe. with my comendacons to m[y] wyffe & Sonne & to all our frinds wh[...] o god blesse & send me home in helthe for her[e] is nothing to be gotten for me he must take of[...] frinde & for ells he shall not winne which god keape me [...] frend I had Rather come home & begynne agayne our suite to the Q. Majesties counsell for some Recompence for our true service & the losse of our goods not doubtinge but the equitie of our sute the smale prejudice to the comon weale well considered [...] consumynge sute & well deserved service which all the worlde are witnesses of & our mysery [...] some pitefull consideracon, to thencoragement of others which I doe [...] that for thequitie of the cause, you know all our overthrowen therby **[fol. 392v]** The grave of the marke was felt owte of the howsse to Honinghen satterdaie nighte by the schuttery of the same towne & broughte to Rotterdam & ledg[ed] in the swan, it is strainge to se the dealings of [...] this tyme, for one daie it is donne with symp[...] & an other daie Restore hym again, he [...] best is he is a truer man & truer th[an] the causers of his apprehention god ju[dge] all to the best this contrey stan[...] ells in a weke caste / I was fre[...] for Lack of convayance to kepe [...] lres tyll the 13 July for lack of conva[...] yet sent I them to Rotterdam & thens to [the] brill / our people by comandement have left [...] our Leger, & the spanyards by Reporte have [...] it nowe in possession, vale in haste / By yours to my power to com[mand] S jewks