

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Cotton Galba C VII f. 129r - v. James Barrow to William Herle. In this letter, which is incorporated into the volume with the writing on the verso, the writing continues perpendicular along the left hand side of the page.

Address leaf:

[fol. 129r]

[Superscription:] To his aprovid good frind, Master William Herle gentleman geve these

[Endorsement by Herle:] from James Barrow by moorefyld in London /

Letter text:

[fol. 129v] Dere Sir, you have so not, even now preventyd me, as, heretofore by sondreye wayes bownd me: for, notwithstanding, I promysed Mr Jhonson, long er thys, to have wrytten; thys sondaye 23 april I recevyd your lre; which, acusethe me of slowthe, and condempned me of ingrattyd: but, I confes the fault, and hope to amend. You salute me, so, as becomes a good man; for in christ, ys the cheefe band: and I esteme you more, then modestye wyls me to speake / [...] ys, I dyd marvel of your long staye, and often, inquired of your ^{short} retorne, but, now your lre hath fullye satisfied me / I knowe my dett, you now then comend dewties; but since, you wylbe satysfied, with slender payment; tyl fyttter tyme, I wyl answer your comand / I cannott furnyshe my self, with master Stevens instruction, for, I have not sene hym of long at the court / I am not [stored] ~~not any wayes furnyshe~~d with newer things, to lend you; nor yett, how ys not: for our world dothe muse, at the frenche, and their causes: theyr came to London, on frydaye last, recevyed, wth great triumphe and intertaynyd, with great cost, as ever you knewe, or hard / The *Cardinal grandeville* ys imbasador in fraunche, and a great man from the Emperor. I had newes the other daye from naples, how *Ceser*, and *Philipp* wyl in person be in the lowe countries thys somer: and, for that cause the souldiers that were in portingale, ys kept to [gretter] [styl] The Turke armes 200 galies, som feere *Candie*/

I heare, the quene contenewes her mynd, to answer this mayi the turkes lres; and you were named.

Scotland ys quiett, & som of or souldiers from the [frontiers] dysmysse: nor, the king in religion, ys not revoltyd: but, danbrye rules, beyond all reache / That arche knave, Campion, ys not hard of: but, I [preferd] as great a matter on ester daye, to the consale / Captayne Drake, ys knyghtyd, som thynks he goes agayne the lowe contryes ys no changlyng: for, the earthe ys fattyd styl, with human blode: for Cotton, and Rowland yorke, for privatt cause, in privatt fight, hath moystned, that grownd, with ending, their owne lyf. for the rest of [the countryes] I saye nothing, tyl I knowe my self: & thus I end, with all dewtyful comendacons

I am presently within 15 dayes, to go to Venice, er which tyme, I meane god wylling, once to wryte you, though I cannot se you. Sir, the hast of your messenger, makes me shorter then I would be: but, I knowe, you wyl esteme my good meanyng. And so god bles you, for ever / London 24 aprill 1581 Yours ever in christ [raryfied] Ja: Barrow