

# Transcript

## Editorial comments:

BL MS Cotton Galba C VII f. 222r - 223v. William Herle to the Earl of Leicester. This letter has a large hole in the last page: 62mm at its widest, 48mm at its longest. Fol. 222r has the signature 'Kk'.

## Address leaf:

[fol. 223v]

[Superscription:] To the R. honorable mi verey good Lord, the Erlle of Lecester &c. gyve these with speede att the Cowrtt .

[Endorsement by :] William Herle 14<sup>o</sup> April.

## Letter text:

[fol. 222r] Belgia 1582 14 Aprill B

ar comitted to Villyers those of Frawnce to Plessye, & the rest to St Aldegond / which Villiers this daye, tolld to on of good ymportance under Cowncell, ~~here~~, that they were wont to sollycite the Q. of England butt now it was her torne to sollycite theme, for they had so yntangled her, as she most playe her parte allso, for which & mani other resons that I understand, I do know that it is nott necessarye for her majestie to have any publick Agent here, Lest she sholdd be openlye qwarrelled with, yett to yntertayne with a conveyent allowans underhand, on that sholdd have vigilancye & nere dutye in hym, towards her servyce, methyncks (I speke it under favor) that it were most necessarye, wheryn remember me, your L. trew & faythfull follower.

Monsieur shewes, that yong Chattillion hath offred 5000. brave olld shott to serve under hym here, yf he plese to accept of hym. Butt St Aldegonds principle is, that where ~~of~~ store of mony is first, Brave trowpes will follow./ Uppon the report of the Q. mothers sicknes & lykelihood to dye, the principall abowtt monsieur shewed grett joye. For that their masters credite & advancement sholdd be grett therby yn frawnce, The sayd monsieur was advertised that don Anthonios companys yn frawnce, dyd muster openlye./ [marginalia by Herle: I pray God that those shippes & copanyes be nott converted elles where./] Madorn hath revollted (as the master of a ship that is com from thens, hath repported) to don Anthonios syde, havyng murderd verye cruelly the K. of Sp: lyvetenant & hanged hym up for a spectacle./

Yesterdaye the repport was here that don mathias was kylled yn a dronken contentyon bettween hym & Tanevity his maister de'stell butt to daye it is contraryed./

Du Puccio that is here, tolld me that your L. shewed mi lre to Coranus that conserved hym in the repport that the sayd Puccio made of hym, towchyng Irreligion & blasphemye, hopyng that your L. will nott recompense mi travaylles & devotyon with lyke ~~harding~~ hardnes, yow beyng a Cowncellor, & shewed how to discover the truth herof by Coranus hym self, yf it had plesed you to have esteemed of the maner.

Skynck is taken prisoner yn Santon a Town of the d. of Cleves by the garrisons of gellder Towne & Wachtenduck, & browght [to] [fol. 222v] Gellder, where he owght to answer the Q. of England cheefflye for the wrong that hath byn don for yn the person of Daniell Rogers Butt she most be qwyck yn the sollycyteng of it, for there be resolutyons in hand that will prevent her otherwise./

The enmye is loked for in flanders, now that Lentz is taken yn & sent a convoe of vyttayles of late to Allost, wherbye it was thowght that he wolld have beseged Lykect, or Mursell, butt nothyng followed of ytt./

Monsieur growes verye popular, & was att Plantyns shopp ~~a foote~~ to se his presses, usyng grett familiarity to all those that approched hym goyng a foote through the streetes./ He is desyred att Gawnt still, butt all things do staye uppon the P. of Orengs convalescencye./

Paul Buys assured me that there was small apparence of an armye, suc[h] as the frenche promised for [ ... ] sayth he it is verye secrettlye levied or elles there is no [ ... ] butt suche as our mony most fyrst cawse to marche, the sayd Paul Buys shewed me that Gillpyne had byn with hym, to currye favor, & among other thyngs repported, that he was appoynted ~~to~~ to be att the dyett ymperyall for the Q. which dyett is now differd by the K of Sp: to the end that he may have certayn ambassadors & assistents theratt./

Two Catholyck prechers be banished this towne, who made theyr complaynt ~~therof~~ to monsieur, Butt he byd theme to have pacyens for a while./

Du Vraye doth uppon his honor & christianitye denye yt, which the noble man tolld yow of his repport, & hath byn perswaded synce he cam hither to go to masse, with condycion of favor & respect to be used to hym, so he wolld yncline that waye, butt he utterlye rejected it & all condicyons./ He sayd that he was frownd att for his denyall./ yett is he used (as I se) verye nere unto monsieur, & in cheeff place among his Cowncell, & [1 word expunged] affayres. I humbly beseke yow to thanck hym for me, & that I wilbe redy to do ani good offyce that I am hable./ His allteza hath desired ones or twise to speke with me, to whom I reppayre on mondaye next by Godds grace./ The sayd Du Vraye affirmes that Monseieur hath a verye harde oppynion of [1 word expunged] Sir Henry Cobham in france, for yll offyces that he sholld have don hym, asswell abowtt ~~otherwise~~ Cymiers as otherwise./

Ther was a determinatyon among som principall persons of the Estats [fol. 223r] yncase the P. had dyed or sholld dye, to chuse an assistent to monsieur owtt [1 word expunged] of England./

Master John norrys hath sworn to monsieur for his estate of Generallship yn Gellders, zutphen, & fryse, & theruppon hath Received an absolute comission to governe those englisshe men that be here present in servyce, or ar to com./

To mete with the which master northe & master Cotton have gotten severall Comissyons, to gether of all natyons, pretending only to have englisshe men & to Rewenge theme sellves with this cawtell under Rochepott./

your L. hath written to Coronell steward to be more secrett, than he is, butt he is now tyed here for ani mony that he can gett for his dispatche. Your L. knowes whatt I writt of hym by the last. which

is confirmed more & more./

I dare nott [ ... ] I am ynformed [to]wching our state & for mi sel[lf] [ ... ]ere som season, havng sent your L. ij poore mess[ages] [but you have receved] nether of theme. yf I were hable to end[ure][ ... ] greve me, or had ani assistens butt this wolld werye a [ ... ] mi sellf, that hath vowed [1 word expunged] ~~hard~~ hart & all that he hath to your L. whom therfore ye owght to yntreatt [1 word expunged] well, for your L. knowes whatt he sayd to me & to Sir john Hubond beffore mi comyng hither./

Ytt may plese your L. to make my L. ~~acqwaynted~~ Thresuror acqwaynted with this mi humble lre, for I had no leysure to wryte to him, sendyng you herwith a booke worthye for the matter & the ornaments theryn conteynd./ Wherwith most humbly I finissh./ the 14. of Aprill. 1582. Andwerpe in haste. your L. most humbly W Herlle.

[Postscript:] Good mi L. remember me for Wililam Wade, & that it may plese mi L. Tresuror to joyne with you in the same./