

# Transcript

## Editorial comments:

BL MS Cotton Galba C VII f. 226r - 227v. William Herle to the Earl of Leicester.

## Letter text:

[fol. 226r] Belgia 1582 14 Aprill A

Ytt plesed your L. to write me ij lres synce I cam hither, the on [ ... ] of marche, & the other of the last of the same, which were verey dere [ ... ] for that they cam from your L./ yett in the latter lre ye seme to be [ ... ] I had sent a messenger of purpose over to advertyse the dang[er that] the P. of Orenge was yn, your L. [1 word expunged] alledging that synce [ ... ] dressyng, he was in no peryle att all, which had bred me som [ ... ] with her majestie. that I shold be so hastye in advertiseng things for [un]derstanding, that nether were assured nor lykelye./

Trulye mi L. I will humbly presume, that my zele to her majestie [& my] affectyon to your L. may transporte me far, to judge the worse [ ... ] that might conserne, ether her majesties estate in danger, or your L. [ ... ] discredite,/ Butt that I have written ether ~~written~~ unassured [ ... ] unlykelye off the P. of Orenge's disposityon, the resons that I [ ... ] for the same in mi lre, & the event that succeded, may cons[ ... ] mi knowledge, nott rasshlye grownded, which cawsed me to dispa[tche] a speciall messenger to your L. for the importance yt it requir[ed in] mi oppynion, to have her majestie ynstructed therof trulye & in se[ ... ]s [ ... ] & so of lyke loyalltye have I sent ij other messengers sy[nce] for that & other matters, which I hope deserves rather yncoraygem[ent] than reprehensyon, seyng the travaylle & care is myne, & the ex[ ... ] withall hitherunto./ Affirmeng further ~~unto your L.~~ that whatt I wryte ~~unto your L.~~ unto your L. ether yn [1 word expunged] nature of affirm[ation] or conjecture, that I am well advised beffore hand whatt I do, [and] have as good menes to be ynstructed theryn as ani he that is of [ ... ] this syde the sea, wher yn I nether spare labor nor charge, that I [am] hable to yelld. havyng observed this, that exceptyng St aldeg[ond] DuPlessye, & Villiers, which ar the P. of Orenge's ministers, & th[ose] of Monsieurs syde, Du Vraye (who is newlye arryved) & Chartier [ ... ] there is nott an universall man <sup>here</sup> ~~of this syde the seas~~, & som of the [ ... ] former [1 word expunged] want mani thynge of ~~perfectyon~~ comune perfectyon./

for metkerck, Junius, Paul Buis, & that sorte, they go no further the[n] their partyculer estats, & for Ressel trulye mi L. he wants bothe judgement & wytt, or elles he [Redetes] so as he which will fysshe the [fol. 226v] bottom here, most have habilyte & will to frequent theme all, & ~~to judge~~ so he may be well ynstructed, & correct ani on of theme yf he swarve. Besyde that I have the oppynion of those that ether yn Religion or factyon ar contrarye to this syde, or that in lernyng or wytt do excell the rest, be he stranger or naturall. Towards a perfectyon wheryn, I want only mayntenance & cowntenance, which her majestie might easelye supplye, yf she wold be enclyned to ad som portyon towards the same./ Wherof she hath more neede to looke unto than I, for bothe her States & person ar hated & envyed, & so be yow of her Cowncell, which will breke owtt yn practys & actyon, uppon the first occasyon, wherof when it shall plese her majestie I will give her more partyculer ynfformatyon./

Towching the P. wownd, as att the first, the powder & fyre dyd make a crust or escar, uppon the wayne, ~~wherby~~ that was hurte, which uppon the fallyng of dyd bred peryll to his lyfe: so to stoppe

the sayd veyne att this last tyme, they devised sondrye long Tentcs wth matter compownded of hott & vyscows [1 word expunged] things, which serves as an artificyall fire to cruste the vayne where it takes hold, wherof deppends the cure: So as yf the sayd crust do separate it self ~~from the veyne beffore~~ & fall of beffore the vayne undernethe be skyned & strengthened, then the bleedyng Renewes without hope of ~~further~~ Remedye./ wherfore they still use the sayd nature of Tent, mary Tempred with medecyne more gentyll & comfortable./ They hold the vayne wth one fynger abov[e] the wound on the owtt syde, ~~lest in sleepyng~~ to night & daye, asswell to stoppe the cowrse of the bloode, as lest in sleepyng he might strayne the vayne by misslayeng or turnyng of his hed./ The phisyeyens & surgyens gyve good hope, that he maye escape this danger (which God of his goodnes grawnt) butt they ad withall, that it is a cure of Gods own myracle, & nott of any [marginalia by Herle: [ ... ] mayn scyens, [ ... ] the sayd cure [ ... ] perfected] ~~seyens~~, which ~~sorts~~ [2 words expunged] sorte of wounds they saye, ar nott without mortall peryll for 40. dayes contynuallye after the hurte, wherof this is the 28. daye. And this they hold for a principle owtt of Cornelius Cellsus./ There ar ij accydents more that they be a frayd of, yn respect of the place which drawes all the humidytyes of the hed thither, the first lest by [fol. 227r] distillatyons into the throte, he may be subject to the cowgh, w[heryn]they gyve hym as lyttell nurritor as may be, to the end they may [ ... ] of abowdance of humors to asscend or disscend. The second [ ... ] lest the grett humidytye feede the place so mucche, as it convert [to a] cancker yn the nature of a Gangrena./ I was this morn[yng] with Monsieur St aldegond, who comands hym humbly to your L. & to [master] Secretorye, shewyng me that the prince was yn the mendyng ho[ ... ] & that he hoped well of his hellthe, & had a good nighte, yett that [he] slept nothing att all. On of his surgyens tolld me that it [was] the best night he had synce his hurte./ ytt might plese your [L.] to wryte ij or 3 lynes to the sayd St aldegonde of tha[ ... ] (& the lyke to du Vraye who most humbly comends his service to [yow] for the curtesye I fynde att their hands, butt then ytt were me[ ... ] eye it wer don by the next poste, & with good [1 word expunged] favo[ra]bell Termes./

Towching Monsieur, he applyes his busynes here wth marvay[low]s care & travayll, & yett can [1 word expunged] bryng theme to no resolotyon [ ... ] certaynty for their fynances (which is the grownd of all) beffore [ ... ] they do se that the P. of Orenge will lyve or dye. On Tews[day] next they have promised to gyve up their answer, yf nothyng [ ... ] happen of accydent in the mene while./ They of holland & Zel[and] have small Taste yn the frenche, & for mony there is nott [ ... ] C gilldernes to be raysed ether of Thresure, or credite, fo[r] ani affayre they have in hand./ The frenche K. in the mene season hath payed the garrison of Cambraye for .3. mone[thes] & hathe mustred theme by his own mynisters./ The frenche <sup>only</sup> [ ... ] now remayne ~~only~~ yn Brugs in garrison, the englysshe enseyngnes beyng discharged thence./ ytt is lykelye that the fre[nche] garrisons shalbe brought to the Sluse & the sea syde, which they of Holland & Zeland do marvaylowslye stomack. And Paul Buys byd me tell your L & the L. Thresuror that it will brede difficultye & allteracyon,/ butt sayth he lett flanders dele for theme sellves./

[fol. 227v] ytt is concluded heruppon that Monsieur & his brother ar secrettlye on which is the oppnyon of the best seyng men yn these parts./

This daye Monsieur Reported that the K. of Sp: forcs ~~dyd marche~~ owtt of Italye [1 word expunged] dyd prepare to marche withall speede, which they interprete here is to hasten theme the more on to provyde mony to assemble a cownter Armye./

Lentz is gyven up by accord, the sowdyers to departe with dagger & sword, levyng their other armes & horses behynde theme, & their captynes in pledge, till suche bootye & persones be

returned from Cambraye, as the frenche have taken beffore yn som places lymited to the capitulacyons./

Monsieur here hath observed verely strayttlye all the ceremonies that belong to this weke begyneng with pallme on sondaye. & so contynueng wth dissciplyne on wensdaye, [1 word expunged] Mawndy & wasshyng of xij poore menes feete on thursdaye, the creepyng to the crosse yesterdaye, & so with the rest to daye, that appertaynes to the matter, which is to brede a strong ymaginatyon in the Papists, that they may digest the Recevyng of the othe agaynst ~~the K.~~ the K. of Spayne, the better, which they have begon to do, & must perfforce fynisshe ytt. A thyng as good to be over the sholders as the shewes, & to accomplissh the rest, they have erected Monsieurs armes absolutely yn stone att the Towne howse & mynte, & ar to do the lyke yn the other ~~places~~ places here, so as nothyng Rests butt to make the K. of Sp: processe for the assassynement of the P. of Orenge. Butt Monsieur under this hath discoverd above 30m papists in this Towne, who beng tyed to hym by othe, <sup>^ones^</sup> may prevayle the more of theme & the rest hereafter./ Wherfore it may be concluded that Monsieur shall governe the papists. the P. of orange (yf he lyve) the protestants, & patriotts, & the P. of Pynoys to yntertayne the mallcontents, of which the marqwes of Barcow & the D. of Areschott & his trayne, do make menes from Lyege to be reconsyld agayne. to this syde. The lyke disposytyon hath the P. of orange ~~hath~~ of his ministers./ for the affayres of England.