

# Transcript

## Editorial comments:

BL MS Cotton Galba C VII f. 228r - 229v. William Herle to the Earl of Leicester.

## Letter text:

[fol. 228r] Belgia 1582 21 Aprill Copey of mi Ire to master Secretary Walsingham from Andwerpe the 21 aprill. 1582

The P of Orenge on monday mornynge, had a Tent taken owtt of his [] which was misseng by the space of xij dayes beffore, which the phisycyens & surgyens had perwsaded the sayd P. to be yssued wth the fluxe of blood or to be swallo[wed] ynto his body. The f[yn]deng of the sayd Tent, makes an assuraunce that the vayne is closed up, & that they may hope for perfect hellth, procured by the verey miracle of God, & no scyens of man./

They kepe the sayd P. from mete, ministreng onlye whatt may sustayne [his] nature, lest ani accydent of fever, Catharre, or other ynconvenyens sholld follow. Cornelius Cellsus doth nott assure ani of these wownds to be with[out] mortall danger for the space of 40. dayes after the hurte. Butt yn the p[ ... ] of the P. ytt requires a longer tyme of consyderatyon, & by suche procedyng [ ... ] Good comendacion is gyven to Skon Thomas a surgyen of this Towne, w[ho] had prepared powder of Red copper, dissollved by vytrioll & other corrosyve matter, which ministred uppon long Tents, toke first hold of the vayne. The sayd powder beyng Tasted uppon the Tong, appers to be without acrymony which gyves it the gretter estymatyon. I am promised the Receytt therof./

D. Josephus michell had the charge to kepe the P. from [Vescyng] & cowgh[ing] duryng the care, which was nott the lest part to yntertayne, by reson of conty[nuall] distillacions owtt of his hed into the throte./

They do yett holld a finger night & daye uppon the vayne, to staye blood [&] catharres, which is the trew estate that the P. fyndes him self in att this present yett som whatt trobled wth a colld ^now^ that hath procured a cowgh, butt nott [so] vehement, as it hurtes./

ytt is ferd that the P. shall never recover his former sences, which I do putt yow in mynde of, as a Councellor of your nerenes to her majesties sec[rett] affayres, to mesure his Judgement herafter with his actyons, lest the on fay[ll] ye do repose uppon oppinion rather than cawse in the rest, which deceived [ ... ] grett Stats in the person of the late Admirall Chattillion, when [his] sences faylled hym yn the latter dayes, dyrected by ministers, & by wekene[d] [ ... ] his own oppynion./

The Councell of finances is establyshed & sworn on wensday last [ ... ] whose names be yncluded./

The princes Councell was discharged synce the 25. of februarye, butt a new electyon of persons is in hand, for erectyng of the sayd Councell. The olld Councell of Estate was conffirmed & sworn on Tewsdaye y[e] 27. of mrche, without allteracion of persons, savyng that yf ani wolld be excused by ayge or other ympedymnt, that others sholld supplye their place. here is lykewise a

lyste of their names. yett they do intend to chuse a vij [fol. 228v] persons more, with a Gryffier & ussher, to be attendant & Resyant contynuallye beyond the Mose, to determyne affayres for the ease of those contryes there, with the awthoritye, as a member of the Cowncell of Estate. & ~~procede & conclude.~~

ytt is agreed that Monsieur shall have furthwith delivered into his hands, all the domaynes appertayneng to the Soveraynty of these contryes, & in the possessyon of the provynces united, towards the discharge of his Cowrt, Trayne, & expences, wherof he shall putt down the proportyon, & be answerd the surplusage, owt of suche menes as the Stats generall shall appoynt to that use, nature & certainty as a Rent of Assise. And Monsieurs own officers shall administer the sayd Revenewes, so they be persons capable, by reson of their byrthe in these contryes./

[marginalia by Herle: [manicule]] next the Stats have accorded to him 250m gilldernes monethlye for the maintenance of the warres, the sayd allowance to begin from the first of Aprill forwards. & he to discharge theme of ani further aggravatyon for that cawse./

To which effect they do consigne into his possessyon, *Les Droitz de Convoi, & Licent de toutes marchandizes & devrees, entrant & sortant des Provinces unies*. Lykewise they assigne unto hym, *Les Droitz de Consumpcions par de ca: a scavoir de vin, cervoise, bledz, cher, poisson, seel, Turbes, Bois, savon &c*. And yncase that these Gabelles do nott suffise to answer the sayd som of 250m gilldernes monethlye The Estats generall do promis to furnissh the rest./

Besyde this, the Stats have grawnted to Monsieur in redy mony for the addressing of an Armye the som of 356m gylldernes, to be payd beffore the end of this moneth, [marginalia by Herle: [ ... ] Zeland. 20m gl. Holland. 80m gl. Utrecht. 10m gl. Gellders. 20m gl. Overissell. 16m g. Frise. 20m gl. [ ... ] rate, ye may [e]stymate the revenewes [and] valuatyon of eche [c]ontry & provynce severallye. ye shall have a trew Booke of their severall revenewes [Dowgnes], [accites] &c] wherof Brabant furnissheth 70m gilldernes, flawnders 130m gilldernes, & the rest is devyded bettween Zeland, Holland, utrecht, Gellders, Overissell, & frise. according to the qwotization./ Monsieur della vall is departed on wensdaye towards frawnce, for the levyeng of Trowpes & so be others daylye departyng, butt ytt wilbe 3 moneths beffore they be here to do service./

Monsieur hath proposed further, that it is most necessarye they do allow a 300m gilldernes to be payd yn vj moneths by eqwall portyons from aprill forward to stalle therwith the old detts dew to the Coronelles & Captaynes, to the end that they may be made the habler & more willeng to serve, & the provynces be discharged of a huge clayme & burden, which motyon is well lyked of./

Those of Holland & Zeland do concurre yn the premisses with the rest, & have sent home for a new comissyon to rateffye that which passeth. Beyng made hable (accordyng to an artycle conteyned yn the pacifficatyon of Gawnt) to decyde their [fol. 229r] controversyes & Lawe processes att home, withoutt appellatyon more to [ ... ] which privilege hath encreased their devotyon muche towards the generall cawse. Lastlye the sayd Estats have determined to erect a new chamber of A[ ... ] for the furnissheng of these supplyes & contrybutyons, in order & season, & to be [ ... ] to answer ani new necessityes that may occurre./ Monsieur havyng promis[ed] to bestowe yerelye 200m [crowns] of his own Renewew, to ease the stats yn the co[n]tynuance of these warres./

The thyng next of most difficultye to determyne, hath by the othe that is to [be] gyven to the Burgesses & inhabitants of this Town, which is conseved & [exe]cuted in the forme that your honor shall se ynclosed heryn, yn frenche, [that] suche as do traffick into Spayne, the sayd othe is qwalleffyed, vz to s[wear] loyalltye to Monsieur, & nott to abjure the K. of Spayne./ Ytt is a thing deepele to be looked ^into^, that there are fownd (as Monsieur observes [ ... ] testeffer, aboue 30m severall persons, to have byn att masse att [ ... ] churche, syns the permissyon therof. And that of a vjxx m sowlles, call[ ... ] to be within this Town more than half be papists, & be suche withall for their wellthe, credite, & parentayge, as do carye the verey pullse of [the] Burse & traffick with theme. Their othe is as papists to a papist.

The K of Sp: armoryes ar rased, & the dukes sett up in st[one] verey substanciallye for theme. /

There is som jarre bettween the Stats of flanders & Brabant, uppon [the] poynt of privylege that wheras non ^ar^is to be admitted officers in Brab[ant] butt their own people, those of flanders woldd ether cutt it of, or exclude theme from beryng of office owtt of their owne jurisdictyon. Ytt semes that Monsieur is nott displesed wth this pyke, havng Receved their [sup]plycatyon of flanders to debate of it in cowncell./

Owr merchants have procured Testymonyes here, to answer the objectyon the hans stedes att the Imperyall dyett, wheryn (as Gwiciardyn & som other frynd of myne hath infformed me), their advocate hath nott so se[tt] down their Resons & justifficatyon, as the cawse requires & ymports./

here is arryved affle a fleett of 22. grett shippes, charged wth rych merchandise owtt of Lusbon & Andaluzia, & on vessell from the Madras, reppertyng that the place is in the devotyon still to the K .of Sp: & nowaye revollted./

The enmye, after the easye wyneng of Lentz, is com into flanders, first [fol. 229v] to Bell & Popering, wherof was ferd that he woldd besege Iper, & lykewise stoppe the passayge owtt of frawnce, bettween Donkerck & Gravelling, butt now the sayd Enmye is beffore Owdenard, which hath cawsed sondrye hastye expedicyons from hens: for ytt ymports./

The P. of Parma (after that Skynck was taken by those of Gellder, sent for Verdugo into flawnders, wher he yett is. Butt his lyvetenant monceawx is com beffore Stenwyck in freseland with xvij enseyngnes of footmen, vij cornetts of horsemen, & xvj peces of Battrye, to besege the place./

There is appoynted xv C. Reysters to assiste Verdugo this somer, yn Gellders, of whom the d. of Saxony of Lowemburgh uppon the Elb hath the Ledyng./ On Regyment more of allmayn footemen, with certayne bands of Spaniards & Italyens, shalbe employed that waye allso./

There be ij other Regyments of allmaynes, that ar to joyne wth the P. of Parmas camp, & with theme 3. m Reysters, which D. Eryck of Bronswick is to have the charge of. /

Master Norrys is yett here, whose people hath had a conflyct wth the Boores, besyde Daventrye, wheryn sondrye Boores & others ar slayne. He departs on mondaye towards his charge./

The B. of Lyege hath written to Monsieur, that wheras he is ynfformed that the passayge of Maziers sholdd be shutt up, ytt might plese him to consyder that his contry hath used newtralitye

all this while, therefore to respecte his fryends accordynglye./ The B. is more affrayd than hurte for the frenche K. hath nott proceded so far./

The ArcheBisshop of Mertz is decessed, so is the pallsgraves wyfe & him sellf sick in peryll of dethe. The ymperyall dyett is differred. The K. of Denmarke makes grett preparatyon of shippeng & sowdyers./

There be bettween iij V m Bohemian pyoners coming hither for the service of the K .of Sp: wherby your honor may gesse whatt the P. of parma yntends to do, beyng (as he is) master of the fylld./

Don Anthonios preparations in frawnce, ar ferd to be more for Rochell than Portyngall, which oppynion is awgmented by the K. of navarres Retraytt into Gascoyn, when he was sollicitid to have com forwards. her majestie is wissshed from very good place, to have a carefull eye into scotland, for that there is somwhatt a Brewyng that waye./