

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Cotton Galba C VII f. 235r - v. William Herle to the Earl of Leicester.

Letter text:

[fol. 235r] Belgia 1582 25 Aprill

May it plesse your L. to understand, that on sonday in the after noone, arryved at this cowrth, the Cownt of Rochefferallt, whose comyng rejoyssed Monsieur wonderfullye, & his offer to bryng ij C gentillmen well horsed to his servyce wth their Trayne, & a certayn number of footemen./

On monday mornynge abowtt x. of the clock, advertisements cam, that Coronell Temple, accompanied with *Thyant*, & *La Garde*, had gotten the Town of Allost, by skalad & by yntellygens had with som of the towne. The garrison of albaneses were abrode with a convoye, in whose absence this was executed, which is to be ascribed to chawnce rather, than good conductyon, for the son was an howr highe, beffore that they cam to the walles, & they had overshott their tyme assigned, more than .3. howres. so as the deffence of 25. men had reppelled ^theme^ beyng a Town ympregnable asswell for the new fortifficatyons, as the naturall scyte of the place./

The Governor Muckeron & his new spowse were taken, & above 500. preests, that were retyred thither for saffetye, & with them ij fatt abbotts./ ytt was a prise of synguler ymportance for the state of the whole contrye. & of as grett a losse to the enmye, By which menes Bruxelles, Dermond macklyng, villfford, & Gawnt (of on syde) ar all assured./

ytt is dowttfull whatt the enmye will do, ether persiste to besege Owdenard, (who hath no small benefite by these .3. dayes rayne, that is fallen), or remove to som other place./ Monsieur, who dyd even Langwissh for Owdenard & Gawnt, is now well [reculed] & the passyng is fre from this towne to Bruxelles, & the whole Land of maes & allost assured, which conteyn yn theme bothe, above 300. good vyllaygs./

Provysyon of vyttayles & munityon (with marvaylows speede, lest the enmye sholld prevent theme) was made from hens to Allost by the ryver scholld to Dermond, & from thens by the Tender ynto Allost. which provysyons ar saffelye entered as yesterdaye./

The frenche, Englyssh, & scotts, that were att Ecklow, do marche this daye towards Gawnt, to yncamp bettween the Town & the enmye, thatt they may take advantayge of the occasyons presented, & kepe Gawnt yn order. Temple hath another enterprise in hand, which is thought to be ether Lovayn or Bollduck. yn which latter place, there be above 3000. preests retrayted together./

master norrys is departed towards his charge, & most bryng the same to serve in these parts, yett the matter is refferred to the Land Rade or Contry Councell, of Gellders & the provynces abowtt, whither they will retayne him longer there. who ar thought, will nott be scrupolows yn dischargyng hym [fol. 235v] so small affectyon do they bere to sowdyors. Butt by this mene, som [...] or rather the Cownt of Hollock (that shalbe the P. of orengs son yn Law is to be placed there.

for our grettnes & strengthe in this contry wilbe daylye dimynisshed./

The Enmye hath beffore Owdenard a xiiij or xv m footemen, olld sowdyors, among which be Pollwiller, fronsberg, & fowrckers Regyments, that have byn these xij ~~dayes~~ yeres in paye. Therbe 3 m horsemen by the [polle] with grett store of artyllerye, havynge made a brydge over the water, of schelld, & do holld ther sentynell as far as Eke & Lamehut, which ar [...] a small leage & a halff of Gawnt./ They do nott as yett batter the Towne, butt they had gatherd the peysants to mownt their ordynance./ Here within is a paper of the governors of the provynces & Townes that do holld att this present ether of the spaynissh or frenche syde, which I thowght nott unffytt for your L.

Du Bee is departed from hens towards her majestie yesternight. wherwith I verely humbly fynissh. Andwerpe. the 25. of aprill in haste. 1582. Here is also a paper of the councell of estate establysshed att utrecht for the provynces beyond the mose./your most humblye assur[ed] W Herlleli