

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Cotton Galba D IX f. 82r - 83v. William Herle to the Earl of Leicester. For some reason, Herle has signed this and BL MS Cotton Galba DIX f. 84r - 85v as 'William Harte'. In this document the signature is partially burnt. Herle also uses a different seal than usual on both of these letters.

Address leaf:

[fol. 83v]

[Superscription:] To this right Excellent his very good Lord, the Erle of Leycester, Governor & Lieutenant generall for her Majestie in the United provinces of the Low-conntreys &c.

Letter text:

[fol. 82r] Right Excellent my singular good Lo: albeit I have verie lately imparted unto your L. such things as then ocured; yet recieving this morning from a mynister of this towne, the copie of a Ire sent hym from the Chancellor of Erle John of Nassaw, with charge that it might be comunicated unto me; I thought it my bounden dutie to offre it to your Lo. wishing it may with speede be conveyed to your hands, and by your godly care and wisdom bring forth some good Effect.

I will not take upon me to conjecture what this entreprise may intend: but leave to your L. to be considered if by (*l'aube*) in the other paper the Scotshe K. be not be meant: and these forces prepared to aied the papishe faction ther, & to entre upon us by the northern parts, especially since hartelpoole & Newcastle have bene designed for landing of foraine forces. I purpose to send an other copie to my L. Lieutenant of the Northe: and (lest my former chance to miscary) to enclose in this another copie of the P. of Parmaes Ire.

He ys reported to have sent comission into the East for a huge quantitie of graine, 1700 lasts as some saye, as others 17000. And Condars feareth these forces are prepared for the Emb, belike that therby his countreys may be victualled from Daneseck & other places.

Disordres contynue yea growe amonge your ministers upon this river, for they of Otterdom have taken & carried into their scantz a vessel laden with cloth passing from this towne, notwithstanding it first had the pasport of the Comissary, & since that intercession both of hym & the Admirall. wherupon th'Admirall ys said yesterday to have taken some of them prisoners: a a thing that beside it much deminisheth the reputation of the government, may (except it be provided for) quickly make a schisme twixt Holland and West-freezland: for th'one part relieth on that one, that other of th'other.

The D. of Harborowe is nowe preparing to goe for Engl. having without all fruit broken of his mediation betwene the Erls, & that (as somtyme it cometh to passe in such treaties) with some dislike of eche partie. for Henricus Cherdes (who was sent to your Excellencie the last somer, & nowe was a referendary twixt that Duke and [1 word expunged] Erle Edzard) hath reported, that

the Duke, by launching out sondry speaches ^{^far^} from the matter he dealt in, hath given evident suspition unto many, that either he sought his owne particular profit, or else some further thing to the detriment of that conntrey:

Thus after pardon humbly craved for my boldnes toward your L. I beseche the god of mercy so to direct your endeavor as seeking in every thing th'advancement of his glory, yow may fele much joy and comfort in the good successe thereof. Embden this 20 of Decem. 1586. Your L. most humble servant to be comanded William [Harte].