

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Lansdowne 7 f. 71r - 72v. William Herle to Lord Burghley. The postscript on this letter runs perpendicular in the left margin.

Address leaf:

[fol. 72v]

[Superscription:] To the Right Honorable Sir William Cecyll Knight [her majes]ties princypall Se[cretorye] geve these Cito Cito Cito

[Endorsement by unknown hand:] 13 Octobris. 1563 William Hearle

Letter text:

[fol. 71r] I can scarce write ani thing to your honor presently for wekenes, butt yett enfforcyng mi self to thuttermost, this may breffly open unto yow whatt hitherto yn mi charge hath passed & to whatt termes the same is now brought, being 18 dayes past uppon a hurte of mi horse, shaken with a meane agew I was driven with that to a dooble tertyan, & finally to kepe mi bed, so as your honor coud receave no suche due & requisite advertysments from me as I wold. Butt now in case every waye waxing better, fyrst I shalbe the habler in th'one to satysfye expectacion, & in the other to prepare mi self Imedyatelye homewards with fuller instructyons aswell by mowth as writeng. I have allso here with me the party his principall clerck, attending mi compani for England, bothe caryeng lres of credyte to her majestie with hym, as lykewise to your honor from his master, whom itt may please yow accordinglye to entreate. The Contractor him self had willingly com in person, butt being a weake bodye to undertake suche a vyage, & of muche indisposityon uppon the sea, was agayne disswaded tyll the spryng, butt specyallye he semes to staye with fame of the greatt plage. [fol. 71v] In the allum I have his full resolutyon, suche as may well satisfye your honor. Lykewise in the principall contract doth he present to make the som juste up 400000 [dollers]. butt the tyme of their delyverye is somwhatt to be differred, bothe for that his answer owtt of England cam so late, as allso Duke Erycks band skattred in dyverse parts of the contry this hole yere, was of muche terror to [1 word expunged] hym, lest by suche itt might be distressed in the waye, to the which now there is good remedye he hopes, & therfore in the rest her majestie shall dispose as she wyll.

Cownt Anthoni of Oldenburgh hath written to me that I shold reppayre to conferr with hym, asswell in the money matter, as for som talke of intercowrse or leage to be had otherwise, to the singuler proffitt of her majestie & Realme: butt I deppending holly uppon this other matter, thought nothing meter than to dispatche the same fyrst, & then to the rest were allwayes occasyon of time & purpose to be ministred.

This fynally have mi things framed, to the chest, hoping that mi sycknesse shall nott give ani impeschement to mi spedy retorne homewards - mari, ij things be fyrst reqwisyte, wheruppon I most forcyblye deppend, as to have your honors [fol. 72r] authoritye for som smal vessell of good conduct over, & next for credyte of 2 or 300 [crowns] with Richard Clough to satisffye suche chargs as by waye of credyte I was fayne to take up towards mi necessarye furniture, the which

now allgats beffore mi departure is to be restored agayne, yf master Governor were present, his credyte might well differ ytt, butt as the case is your honor I dowtt nott will have therof good consyderatyon by the next post, & In the meane season will diligentlye attend for suche my spedy dispatche hence. When I last departed from the Cowrt, your honor well remembres that I had butt 30li de claro towards mi chargs, the rest went to master Governor, (consumed in former expencs) as allso a good pece of the 30li dyd, yett for that I wold nott seme to be styll gratyng, I qwyyetted mi sellf with her majesties portyon, tyll I shold deserve more: Now your honor may vowchesaffe to preffer that which is necessarye, & I therby being bothe better hable to serve & do well, shall also contynuallye praye for your honorable estate long t'endure from digham the 13. of october 1563. your honors most humblye W Herlleli

[Postscript:] Lyttell forhes the frencheman & an Italyen on franciscus [I]ard that cam presently owt of England ar bothe apprehended at Andwerpe by Comandement of the Cowrt.