

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Lansdowne 21 f. 31r - v. Lord Burghley's generic letter of reference for William Herle to marry a widow. This may be a copy made for Burghley, as it is in Herle's hand.

Address leaf:

[fol. 31v]

[Endorsement by Herle:] The Copi of mi L. Tresurors lre verbatim for William Herlle to ani wydow that he wolld make that superscriptyon unto./

Letter text:

After mi harty Comendacyons. I understand that on master William Herlle a gentillman whom I have long knowen, & that is verely well borne, & of a good kinred, dothe make menes to have your good will to becom your husbond, & becawse I have good cawse to know hym & to love hym, & therfore I am desirows to do hym good, I am thus bolld to require you to credit me, that I thinck assuredly he will prove an honest husband & will behave hym self towards you like a gentillman to be loved of you. / He is ~~sur~~ surely a gentillman of verely good qwalityes, wise, lerned, & of grett experyens in mani thynges, & so hath bin employed in sondry services for the Q. majestie: in which respect he hath her majesties favor & is well knowen of her, insomuche as now verely lately, her majestie hath granted to hym a sute of som good ~~val~~ valew for his reward, & is further to be considered by her majestie whan tyme may serve with som convenient office for his better ~~Cowntenance~~ mayntenaunce & credite. And now if it may like you to esteme hym for your husbond, I dare undertake that he shall so behave hym self, as you shall thinck me to have don you grett plesure, in recomeding & preferring hym unto yow: Assuryng yow if I dyd nott perswade mi self so of hym, I wolld nott wryte yn this sort as I do: And so wishing that I might here of your inclynatyon to permitt hym to be a sutor to yow, & than I dowtt nott butt your self, shall fynde & manifestly perceve a sufficiencye of worthines for his good nature & ^ [1 word expunged] ^{qwalities} other qwalities to be accepted as he desireth. from the Cowrt att Sir Thomas Byllfords howse in Kent the xth of Awgust. 1573. Your verely [1 word expunged] loving frynd./