

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Lansdowne 31 f. 30r - v, and (verso) f. 33r - v William Herle to Lord Burghley. This letter encloses a separate letter from Vincent Mourphy to Burghley, which has been bound into the manuscript volume before the verso from Herle's letter, (fol. 33v) which is placed after the two documents. At the top of fol. 30v is a mark in the margin which resembles a manicule.

Address leaf:

[fol. 33v]

[Superscription:] To the R. honorable mi very good L. the Lord highe Thresuror of England &c. give these./

[Endorsement by Herle:] ytt may plese your L. to rede these as spedly as you may./

[Endorsement by unknown hand:] 26. sept. 1580 William Herle to my L. Towching the Charter of the Abbay of Wigmore. Practises discovered by vincent mourphie.

Letter text:

[fol. 30r]

- May it plese your L. to remember, that I deliverd yow of late att Thiballds, a calender of certayn things, which conserved the office ye [writt] of, wherwith your L. was desirous to se the particuler bookes that were mencioned in the sayd calender, which the partye is redy to bryng, when it shalbe your honorable plesure to comand hym to waytt uppon yow. And will further show unto your L. suche other probable matter of importance & secreseye, as will satisfie yow grettly, & is most necessarye to be loked ynto with spede./ This partye whom I mene, is nott Percivall hym sellf, butt a frynd of his, a very sufficyent man yn that behalf & a secrett, who shall bryng with hym a lre of myne, when he is to repaire to your L. wherby ye shall the better know hym. /
- [marginalia by Herle: 2] I do send your L. herewith, a drawght of the charter of the Abbeye of wigmor bothe in Latten & Englissh. which yf your L. lyke to have a cople of for your sellf, mi man who writes fayre, shall drawe owtt on./ By the which Charter her majestie may inhibite suche gentillmen, as do holld Lands of the sayd Abbeye, to kepe [Leetts] & Cowrts as they do, taking therby fellows goods & the proffitte of wayffs & strayffs of blood shed, Ryotts, &c. to theme sellves, which is only the Qweenes & nott theirs, & wilbe of good comodity unto her./ for the Erles of Marche (as appear by the sayd Charters), gave no suche Royalltyes to the Abbotts in their fowndacion, as the gentill men do now usurpe: the understanding whereof, beyng of some service to her majestie I thought it mi parte to delyver the same unto your L. wisshing humbly that I might acknowlege her majesties grett gracyowsnes towards me in gretter maner, which I will contynnuallye yndevor to do./
- [marginalia by Herle: 3] A third thing I have to move your L. of, which ymports most (this dangerows tyme consydered) Thatt is, the discoverye of certayne yll practises that ar in hand, & of men of som note that ar shrewdly affected to her majesties person, & be delers agaynst the State: The particularities wherof ar onlye & properly to be Reveled to your L. by the partye hym sellfe, that hath discoverd theme; who humbly desiers by this **[fol. 30v]** his lre ynclosed,

that you will vouchesave to send for hym to your L. (for that he is deteynd att this present by actions of men vexacious in the Counter in the powltrye, & otherwise without your L. warrant, he canott repayre to your L.) butt att his comyng, he will discharge his dutye, in matters of very perillows [yntendment] & conseqwens, that he is made privy unto, & therfor prayes your L. withall, that even for her majesties saffetye, that he mighte be favourably & with good cowntenance hard by your own self, asson as is possible. / And for that I have byn intreated (which is allso mi highe duty) & have theruppon promised to sollicyte this muche your L. for hym, ytt may plese yow to give me that cowntenance, that may appear unto hym that I have don it carefullye (as a poore [ser]vant of her majesties) & that you esteme of me, the medyator./ I am provyding of a lyttel mony to carye me downe into Wale[s] abowtt mi busynes, which as it is hard to com by: so I hope in God to spede shortlye therof./ Wherof I very humbly fynish, [1 word expunged] craving your L. honorable & spedy answer herunto. London the 26. of September. 1580. Your L. most humbly with mi har[te] W Herlleli.

[Postscript:] I have mi right honorable good L. som particular matter to present for mi sellf, to do her majestie service in, that may carye som effect in it to be don even within Lusbone yf your L. lyke asswell of the matter as of mi zelee./