

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Lansdowne 51 f. 41r - 42v. William Herle to Lord Burghley.

Address leaf:

[fol. 42v]

[Superscription:] To the R. honorable mi very good L. the L. highe Thresoror of England &c. gyve [the]se with spede./

[Endorsement by unknown hand:] 21. octob. 1586. Master Herle to my L.

Letter text:

[fol. 41r] R. honorable good L. may it plesse yow to be advertised, thatt wheras the Erlle of Leicester dispatched me hither to her majestie som good while sithens, for sondry cawses of ymportance, which beyng faythfully delyverd & sollycyted of mi parte, I am now determyned of mi sellf, to retorne to the Erlle, with the repporte of my indevors, & the rather for that his Lordship hath expresslye wylled me of Late, to reppayre unto him, which I woldd have don with the Last Convoeye, butt that I have attended to speke with your L. & to cary over from yow (yf ye so vowchesaved) the Repporte of the Scottish Q. actyons, which wilbe most gratefull to the Erlle, yf he may be advertised of theme from your L. & I shall thinck mi tyme well employed, to have expected this opportunitye, & to have the mene contynuallye, to increse the noble Amitye that is bettween your .2. persons, beyng boldd to assure yow from the Erlle, that he doth syncerely & most Lovynglye embrace your L. & yowres, & ~~as his perfect fryndes~~ & doth Relye in your wisdom & fryndship entyerlye, havng charged me, in ani matter that conserved him, or mi sellf (comyng from him) to addresse mi sellf to your L. freely, & that I sholdd be assured of your honorable favor & advancement./ which I am boldd to crave att this present. your L. knowes, that I was employed by her majesties warrant, & by a direct charge from the Cowncell also, to the Erlle of Leicester, that he sholdd use me in the affyares of Estfrizeland, wherin I [1 word expunged] so behaved mi sellf (as may appere) that her majestie was well served on that behallf, & our merchants preserved from undoyng att Embden, in which actyon I had as grett difficultye, travayll & danger, as ani man might passe, & was fayne to gyve mi pryvate Bond to the Admirall of Holland, for his discharge, in case the Relesyng of the Embden shippes, were layd to his charge by the States, which whatt honor it dyd purchasse to [her] majestie in those partes, whatt assurance to our Traffyck & merchants & how grett obligacion in Erlle Edzard, for the favor Receved, by her majesties procurement, is fitter for your L. to judge, than for me [to] [fol. 41v] expresse. I only desire your L. to be a mene, that mi expences & dyett be answerd, which appertaynes allso to the Cowncell, that they sholdd have regarde therof, beyng advanced by their avowe & commissyon, & the service her majesties alone, wherin I have spent vij moneths, beyng a poore man, & never Receved of her majestie to the valew of viij C li to this daye in recompense of ^all mi^ poore services (my pencyon excepted) [marginalia by Herle: which I am hable to justeffye att the Cowncell boorde wherfore a small possibility in me] that I shall be hable to yndure so grett a charge, & yett mi last service [3 words expunged] beffore this into Est frizeland stood me in 300 li of myne own purse, promised fayne to be recompensed by office & otherwise, butt hitherto have

borne the burden alone./ ytt plesed your L. to saye unto me att wyndsor, of late, that when master secretary shold be com to the Cowrt, ye wolld helpp mi cawse, wherof now I humbly deppend./

And yf her majestie vowchesave to comande me ani thing partyclarly att this present, [marginalia by Herle: into the Lowe Contryes] I wolld most humbly be redy to do the same, & to cary the packett allso, with that spede & security that may be required for I have provyded mi passage, wherwith I dutifullye take mi leve. the Strond the 21. of october. 1586. your L. very humblye W Herlleli.

[Postscript:] my L. of Leicester assured me that uppon mi first arryvall hither, addressyng mi self in so gratefull a service to your L. that I shold be furthwith well satisfyed, wherof I beseke yow to have a favorable care, to the end I be nott utterlye overthrowne. seyng that servants ar nott to bere the charge of their Soveraignes service/