

# Transcript

## Editorial comments:

BL MS Lansdowne 54 f. 150r - v, and (verso) f. 153r - v. William Herle to Lord Burghley. This letter is accompanied by another in the letter-packet addressed to Queen Elizabeth (fol. 151r - 152v), and the verso is placed after the two letters in the volume.

## Address leaf:

[fol. 153v]

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

[Endorsement by unknown hand:] 6 Aug. 1587. master Herle to my L. Copie of his lre to her majesty./.

## Letter text:

[fol. 150r] Accordyng to this cople inclosed, R. honorable L. I writt to her majestie in Apryll laste, which wrought so far in her, as that she sollicitid master Secretary her self, to provyde som convenyent stave for me, In the mene tyme I moved her for the Clerckship of the casuall fynes, which she grawnted, butt the L. Chancellor vallewing it to basse for me, bestowed it uppon his kinseman fr: flowre. Next I sued by lre for Tussers office of the duchie, wherunto her majestie (as I was informed) condiscended, wissheng the same with many good speches had of me, to be worthe muche more than it was yett ones agaynst crossed by the L. Chancellor, in the sute lykewise, & so was I by his L. in the Clerckship of the Cowncell. [marginalia by Herle: first of all] Butt now I understand that master Stallenge is lyke to have it, on butt lately preffered to her majestie, from master Staffords service, a yong man habler to stave for rewarde than I, provyded for allredy in Cowrtt, wherby he hath many advantaiges riseng to him, & utterlye fitt for this Rowne. Of the other syde I have served her majestie from the begyneng of her Raigne, drawn only by your good L. therunto, from sir William Garrards howse, a gentillman I am of honest linaige, & have consumed my yowth, mi fortune, & all that I had, to expresse the duty of a faythfull servante, which I have performed in sondry actions of good moment, I owe to your L. mi education & all the good that ever I Received, & now must, most humblye pray your L. seing that the L. Chancellor hath relinqwished his motyon for the Clerckship of the duchye, that her majestie att your honorable reqwest will vowchsave the same uppon me, & I will repute mi self sufficyently recompensed, & provyded for, without cravyng of her majestie ani more, intendyng to serve the office mi self to be nere when her majestie shall have ani use of me, & to have matter of good exercise, by the cowntenace wherof (to the end your L. may se into mi ynwarde purpose) I shalbe hable to gett som good marriage, for mi settled stave. Her majestie gives nothing owtt of her coffers herin, nor doth master Stallenge ani wrong wherfore yf she will stave me, by so easy a mene to her self, (ellse I most utterly [marginalia by Herle: with whom I hope I may seme worthye the eqwalling] despayre of ani good) from fallyng. I shalbe beholldyng to your L. for ever & I shalbe enabled to do her service indeede, to the comforte of mani that have their eyes bent on me, & for ^on^ the honor that is expected att her graciows hands. Butt trulye mi state is so lowe brought that it can endure no delaye, for mi pencion, the only stave & cowntenace of mi poore

lyveng, is now forfeited for wante of help, that before was morgayged, for the expences of her service, & there is nothing lefte to sustayne me with, nor had ani peny releef from her these .2. yeres. which in the compassyon of your honorable favor, & your regarde to those that merite well off her majesties service, I humblye with confidence comend ^me^ to your mediation & wisdom. putting your L. humbly in mynde how unsemyng it is, [marginalia by Herle: & unhable a matter] for the servant to bere the charge of his Soverains weightye comissions, which is mi case, & then the more resonable to be repayed, wherwith I verely humbly fynyshe. The Cowrtt att your L. howse Thiballdes. vjth of Awgust. 1587. hast. / your L. most Bownden. W Herlleli.