

Transcript

Editorial comments:

HMC Hatfield MS Cecil Papers 9 f. 42r - 43v, (BL Microfilm 485/3). William Herle to Lord Burghley.

Address leaf:

[fol. 43v]

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

[Endorsement by unknown hand:] 18 October 1576 William Hearle to my L. Oyles. Exchange. lres to Master Chester.

Letter text:

[fol. 42r] May it plesse your L. to undrstand, that Master Pope the brynger herof hath byn att the Cowrt with Master Secretary, to whom he hath presented our booke for the sulphure & oylles, & an extracte of the same in Artycles to be shewed unto her majestie. wherin Master Secretary hath dellt with her majestie uppo every artycle, & she hath condisscended to theme [1 word expunged] all, except to the latter parte off the viijth artycle, for the [1 word expunged] enjoyng of men to sowe as muche grownd with rape & cole seeds, as is provyded by statute, that they sholld sowe with lyne & hemp: And then ~~that~~ to the xith artycle, where we desire to be executers of suche statutes, as men may offend in, in hyndreng the good intent that we have in hand; yett her majestie doth wholly refferre the allowyng herof to your L. & to Master Secretary: wherof bycawse they be materyall poynts, we do beseke your L. to have that regarde unto theme, that bothe the necessity of the cawse reqwyres, & the generall comodyty of the whole Reallme.

For in the on it is nott to decease Tylling, butt to encrease it rather, & to awgment the comodyty of lands to the owners, & hereby to be supplied with abowndance of seeds for the contynuance & perfectyon of our woorks. And in the other to make awaye the corruptyon of infformers, & to have the Brydell in our [1 word expunged] own hands to restrayne the crosse deling that otherwise we may be mett with, to the discourayngeng ~~of~~ (& perhaps the overthroweng) of so good a purpose, wherin bycawse master pope is instructed whatt is further to be sayd to your L. towching the same, I humbly refferre it to your wisdom, & ^{to} his negociatyon with yow./

I have byn dellt with since my comyng home, by an olld frynd of myne of xx^{ti} yeres acqwayntance, to have his humble good will long borne unto your L. declared unto yow. [fol. 42v] ytt is Swigo the Italyen, who byddyng me to dyne with hym yesterdaye, I fownd there Acerbo Vellutelli. And there they bothe entryng into discowrse with me, of these exchange & rechawnge matters (which now ministers matter of sondry arguments, among the most parte of merchants) Acerbo told me, that of good will & duty that he bare unto yow, & moved ther to partly by Swigo, whose papers he had exhibited he sayd ~~that he had exhibited~~ unto your L. on sonday att the Cowrt, & opened sondry menes unto yow, how yow might establysshe this pattent of exchange fymely unto yow, with grett lykeng to all sorts & proffytt to your sellf, wherof (knowyng the oppnyon

that your L. had of me) he dyd this privately breke with me in, & that your L. had promised to send for hym when ye first cam to the towne, wher with Swigo & he red unto me the artycles that your L. had Receved, which thowgh that they sattsified me nott in many respects, as things me thought that they dyd nott throwly understand, deserved ^yett^ I sayd grett comendacyon exhortyng theme to contynew in their cowrse, for that it is necessary that your L. sholld here all men, the better to repressse & redresse att on instant, And now the rather that a varlet on pesscyone, hath sett the rest of the Italyens to spe[ke] agaynst your L. & to exhibite complaynts therof in wryteng to her majestie. And of the other syde the flemyns, (who ar the corruptest men this daye in their traffyck that be) do even conspire to withstand the cowrse that is taken to the uttermost, encoraiged secrettly therunto by Gwerras (which I have from a very good place) who payd a crowne for the artycles & proclamatyon that is in prynte towching the exchange &c [...] & sent them to the K. into Spayne, wheruppon the rest do [depart] **[fol. 43r]** now to daye. Swigo cam to mi lodging & browght with him a paper, which I have closed herein, distyngwissheng those Italyens that be willeng to obey this order for the exchange, from the rest, & descrybeng the lyke & disposytyon of those that withdrawe from their dutye herin, with the unlawfull traffyck that they use, that when they com beffore your L. yow may know theme all pertyclerlye, & even object to theme their own secretts & unworthynes, more worthy to be ponysshed & they banisshed, than to Receve ani grett cheryssheng here. The wryteng is (thowgh ~~und~~ yndystynctly wrytten, with lyttel good ortograpye in it) yett playn inowgh to decipher these lowse fellowes unto your L. & mete that yow sholld know theme as they be, to which end I send it humbly to your L. so required by Swigo to do on his behallf. He telles me a thing that I dare nott beleeve, bothe for that I judge the party discrete & honest, & of a good duty to your L. & partly for that there hath byn som stomacking bettween Acerbo & him for favoryng of on dyogenes, in a matter of Coryntes, & therefore the repport is the more partyall, that is that Master Baptist of the pryvey chamber, is a secrett favorer of these supplycations ~~to~~ agaynst your L. & a furtherer of theme to the Q. majestie & that there have byn secrett metyngs bettween these Italyens & hym, that he dare nott avowe, which your L. is to judge of accordyng to your own wisdom./

Lastly I have enclosed herewith the cople of a Ire that I wrytt unto master Edward Chester in holland, to the comandement secrettly of her majestie & Master Secretary in Awgust laste, when your L. inclosed a hoye uppo my motyon purposely to that end. **[fol. 43v]** which Ire conteynes also in substance, the purport of that which I wrytt att that instant to the prince of orenge & to powll Buis. Wherof bycawse I have hard of som misconstrewyng of mi negociatyon therin, & wrong repports of my delyng as thowgh I went abowtt to seperate holland from zeland & to dele [1 word expunged] yndyscretely bothe here & there, ytt may plese your L. to be judge therof, & to be wytnes of the humble syncerenes that I have all wayes used in this actyon, which shall satisfye me more than the gayne of ani worldly goods besyde./

And forassmuche as it pleseth the Q. majestie to cowntenans me now as her servant, & gyves me accesse to com unto her self, as often as I shall desire it, with a comandement to write unto her own person, as occasyon is mynisterd, I do beseche your L. from whom all mi cowntenance & prefferment is deryved, to contynew the good oppynyon therof, & to vowchesave also suche encesse of favor towards me, as [1 word expunged] so humble & faythfull a devotyon as myne is to your good L. may moste humbly intreatt & deserve, wherwith prayeng for your honorable hellthe, I take mi leve in haste. the xvij of october at ix of the clock att night. 1576./ Your L. most humbly to comand & use. W. Herlleli.

