

Transcript

Editorial comments:

SP 53/6/37 f. 64r - 65v. William Herle to Lord Burghley. A later hand has noted 'Scots Pap.' in the margin next to the paragraph beginning 'Towching Charles'.

Address leaf:

[fol. 65v]

[Superscription:] To the right honorable my singuler good lord, the Lord of Burghley, her Majesties Principall secretary. in haste haste.

[Endorsement by unknown hand:] 11. Aprill. 1571. William Herle

[Note:] T Herle was afterward sent over into Holland

Letter text:

[fol. 64r] Towching Malachias, he shall wryte unto your L. to desire that he may com to your presence, for so he hath entreated of hym self before, alledging that he hath somwhatt to say unto your L. whereupon your L. sending for hym secretly by the back waye, with gentillnes he is to be won, & with promis of his former promotyon for he is ambicyows & obstinate & hath entred into som displesure with the spainishe ambassador, insomuche as he wold utter all he said, yf he reffused now to helpp him for whose cawse ^only^ it is, which displesure of his might be aggravated (yf your L. thought so good) ministring as it were some sharpnes & contempt proceeding from the spanish ambassador.

Towching Ramsdon, no dowtt he is an apt man to do some gretter feact against ~~the~~ the late Erlle of Westmerland or ani other if he be cherished, which may nott only discoraige ani rebell, when he is no where saffe from his prince, but expresse a wonderfull vigilancye in every actyon that her Majesty & your L. doth intend, only he hath bin a long suter from Awgust hither, lesing all that he hath, & is yett differred, supposing that master Governor hath reped the frute & prayse of their travayles without desert of his side.

Touching Charles, he is the skottish qwenes man, & pretendes to be of the Lowe Contrey, butt as I lerne secretly, is indede a scott, speking sondry langages, yett esely deciphered. he is one of the only & secretest Ministers that the Qwene & the B. of Rosse hath, & a practiser in all their ill delings in flanders & that way, wherin he hath contynued these iiij yeres wellny, bothe verely dere to his mistres & the Bishop, as also with the spainishe Ambassador / he hath dellt now & doth from tyme to tyme with our Rebelles beyond the seas, ^& with the Duke of alva^ & is privey as may appere with all their Confetherats of this side. bringing over nowe sondry writengs ~~as in so short a tyme~~ which be dangerows as I here & intercepted by the Lord Cobham, wherfore yf your L. do presently comitt hym to close prison with some secrett token to the keper that I may have accesse unto hym, I hope to discover ani parte that is in hym. which in wayeng of his nature & disposityon for so short a tyme, I suppose easely compassed, for he is ferefull, full of words, gloryows, & given to the Cup, over whom I have allredy won some good degre, wisheng me beyond the seas, or if I wold go I shold want [1 word expunged] no frynds of the grettest sort.

Touching Swavingham, there apperes to be som owtward discontentment bettween him and the spanish ambassador, which is conyngly fed, for to desgise som matter therby as is thought,/ now to discover hym fully, master Gilpine hath as a zelows man to his state & of good experience in the Lowe Contrey men, ~~disco~~ shewed som good desire to enter in with hym, with whom he hath awncyent familiarite, & is grettly requeste to be ~~reppayred~~ still with hym, In all which parts it may plese your honor to give me instructyons & Comandment what I have to do, & when to repaire to your L. agayn./