

Transcript

Editorial comments:

SP 70/137/[55] f. 245r - 246v. William Herle to Lord Burghley.

Address leaf:

[fol. 246v]

[Superscription:] To the right honorable mi very good L. the Lord [Hig]he Thresuror of [Eng]land &c. give these [with] spede att the Cowrtt.

[Endorsement by unknown hand:] 20. mart. 1575. William Herle to my L. Paul Buis dispatch.

Letter text:

[fol. 254r] Your good L. by your last lre of the xvth of this present, dyd somwhatt att large vowchesave to discowrse unto me, y^fof your earnest & ynward affectyon to the publyck cawse that the hollanders do treatt for here, wissheng theme bothe to understand & be perswaded assuredly, of the same your good mynde towards theme & their cawse, & that yow dyd desire unto theme all their Relygyows & honest zeles ~~to be granted theme~~, & to be permytted to serve God truly, & to enjoye the rightes that belong to theme, comending the dexterity & right judgement of Powll Buis in his procedings, namely in his intentyon & Cowrse that he proffessed, to joyne rather with this Crowne than with frawnce or ani other stranger, concludyng that now the parlyament ~~was ended~~ being ended, ~~that~~yow ment, as allredy yow had begon, to sollycite their depeche, & that bothe as favorably & with that reward that yow coud gett for theme./ Wherof conferryng partyclerly in your L. name, with the sayd Pawll Buis [marginalia by Herle: as allredy I have wrytten to your L. therof.] he remayned so satisfyed in your L. favorable inclynatyon towards the cawse, & of your good oppynion privately of him, as he sayd that he wolld deppend of your L. whiles he lyved, & that rather he wolld suffer to be torne with wilde horses, than to joyne with the frenche, or with ani other stranger that might prejudice this Crowne [marginalia by Herle: in which oppynion he constantly remaynes & will so contynew duryng lyfe.] gyveng your L. humble thanks for your offer so honorably to procure his dispatche./

which conference, he is com this affter noone to repete unto me, for that God willeng he menes on Wensdaye or thursdaye att the furthest, to departe, [1 word expunged] desireng your L. even as he assures him self in your honorable woord & promis, than which he thinks nothing more certayn that may be procedyng from ~~them~~^{her}men[^] that yow wolld procure him an answer or depeche in wryteng from her majestie grownded uppon the negocyatyon that master hastyns had with theme & that yf it might be for her majesties owne [1 word expunged] credyte, & for her suretye many wayes withall, that she wolld secrettly lend theme 30. Mli nott estymeng the natyon of holland & Zelland so bassely (yf it were butt in [fol. 245v] respect of their neighborhood, who have many correspondencyes with this state & Crowne, nott lyghtly to be weyed) as to denye theme for so small a som, for the which her majestie shall have so good assurance from the Stats of the contrey, as yf the money were styll in her coffers, ‡ [marginalia by Herle: ye she shall have sufficyent hostaygs to remayn for yt here yf she will which he presse the rather for that] ~~Agayn that~~ it shold nott seme to those of Holland & Zeland to be so contempned of her majestie that after so long a treaty here, & so grett assurances given by her majestie to theme [marginalia by

Herle: of favor & ayde] that they sholld cary no frute of their negocyatyon ~~hence~~ ^att all^ butt rather to ~~ytt wolld appere unto theme~~ that they theyr Comissyoners had betrayed the Contreyes cawse, wherunto they be apt inowgh in those parts to speke & beleve ^the worst^ & principally he leves to your honorable & wise consideratyon, whatt an yll taste ytt wolld give [1 word expunged] nott only to theme of holland & Zeland, butt to all those of the Lowe contreyes ever to dele with England agayne, or to trust to ani treaty that might be made here, that sees the Comissyoners of so weightye a cawse so dallyed with, & protracted, being assured of the contrary in the begyneng, even in the invyolable woord of a prince, wherof he feres the inconvenyence more than the losse of his own lyfe yf they retorne thus fruteles home./ Butt trustyng uppon your L. hellp now, or of your answer, he stayth his departure uppon that only./ Desireng yow to be assured of on thing (which as a christien man he speketh bothe as truthe ledes hym & for the goodwill that he beres to this state) that the frenche will attempt presently som whatt in Zeland, *vel ipsis* [1 word expunged] *ipsis invitis*, which wilbe to the Q. majestie grett danger & charge, & wilbe fyrst executed beffore she ones beleve it. yett yf her frynds & wellwillers mynds be nott tomuche withdrawn by unkyndnes from her, there may be good remedy used to encownter ani of their attempts yn season, butt he prayes to God for ij things, the on that this state were served with better intelligence, & then with a mynde to beleve theme & to execute that which is necessary, being of an oppynion for his parte (which he hath good arguments to conffirme hym in) that the K. & the hugenotts in frawnce were agreed ~~synce the ty~~ synce the tyme [fol. 246r] that Lamote & portall were here last, whatt so ever semblance was made to the contrary, & that her majestie is entertayned in the mene tyme, to be prejudiced & abused, as allwayes they have [hard] the [starte] of her that waye./ He sayth that master wallsingham tolld theme that the Q. majestie wolld send a gentillman into flanders to cawse a cessyng of armes, or elles her majestie wolld releve theme with money in holland. for the fyrst parte, theyr enmyes have offred somuche allredy theme sellves & therfore that her majestie shall nott nede to be att this charge nor travayll ~~in this behalff~~ which is nether the cowrse that they most take, nor theyr surety to follow ani suche devises, & in effect is butt a trayne & mockery to their estate, yf they sholld apply so nere unto theme. And to the second for releeff to be used affterwards, that their affayres reqwire present ayd & to be grownded uppon certayntyes, & not uppon season & yrresolutyons, wherwith he humbly comended hym self to your good L. being very sory, even ~~if~~ with his harte for your sycknes, prayeng God for your amendment, & so humbly I take mi leve. from Redcrosse strete the xx^ti^ of marche in haste. 1575. Your L. most humbly W. Herlleli.

[Postscript:] wanton wolld now com & waytt uppon your L. yf your comodytye & lykeng wolld so permytt ytt/