

Transcript

Editorial comments:

BL MS Lansdowne 21 f. 29r – 30v. William Herle to Lord Burghley.

Letter text:

[fol. 29r] I am mi right honorable good Lord returned presently owtt of mi jorny off [1 word expunged] wales, & to give your L. a due accompte of mi sayd jorney, I first indevored to sett the Comissyon of Conselements a worke, wherin having assembled the Comissyoners together, & other of her majesties offycers, to th'end that all things might be orderlye don, I fownd the tyme of the yere so late, the retorne of the Comissyon so short, & that the jurye cowd nott have suffycyent space to give their verdyct ^{up} yn, that I dissolved the same tyll som better opportunytye, yf your L. thought well of that servyce, wherin certainlye I had presented to me wellny ij C marks by the yere in that Cownty of Meryoneth, which woldd have com peceably to her majestie (for I dyd prosede in as modest & discrete terms, as the contrey cowd wisse) & can have the same so fownd for her majestie & a grett dele more in the other shires adjoyneng, lyke as your L. shall perceve by sondry gentillmen beffore the end of the Terme, yf ye vowchesave that they may talke with yow therin, & that the lyke of the matter, wherin those sayd gentillmen do holld som good portyon of the sayd conselements, ^{theme sellves}, & it woldd bryng other men by their example ether to present their own of that lyke nature allso, or elles to be more tractable when their things sholld com in qwestyon, The handlyng of which matter & the travaill mi L. hath bin verey chargeable unto me, as your wisdom can best consyder, & now I mene to delyver up mi commissyon to master fanshawe agayn, & will humbly beseche your L. to interprete well of my zele therin, & that yf I were employed in ani other thing, I woldd to mi power & capacity faithfullye & diligently discharge the same, which of your goodnes consyder, when tyme & occasyon may serve./ Next towching the offyce of the wood [fol. 29v] wardship of the Cownty of herryfford, wherof it plesed yow to make me som grawnt, & to make a staye of the same ~~sayd offyce~~ in master Smithes offyce by your warrant, tyll ye moved her majestie to bestowe it uppon me. I have sene som parte of the woods in my jorney, & do assure your L. that nott only grett spoyll is made of theme & butt a playn havock, where I understode further that the office was given to master woodfford of the spycerye, which if it be so, yett I most humbly thanck your L. for your goodnes to me, which is noles than if I had enjoyed it, butt it may please your L. to take this advertisment ~~of me by the waye~~, withall, that woodfford hath made suche a on his depute as was [1 word expunged] in hand to have bowght a wood which he termed a vallett wood nere unto his howse, & now by this deputacyon, he hath gotten som part of his will ^{withowt charge} more to his own proffitt than the Q./ for me I desired this offyce to another end (for the fee is butt iiij li by the yere) partly to bet be better acquainted in the contry with that begyneng, butt cheefflye to make an entrye of speche & familiarity with master herryffords wydowe that was late woodward in that shire, to the which this woldd have served for a good introductyon, & was desired by mi frynds to com down into the contry to attempt the matche, & that I sholld be well assisted by theme, which I dyd, fyndeng her to be a propper yong gentillwoman of 28. yeres of aige, dowghter to master foxe the secretary without chilldern, lefft well furnisshed & wellthye in howse & movables, with iiij C markes a yere ~~besyde~~ whatt in Lands & leases, besyde the facilyty (if I were matched there) to compasse the gretter parte qwyckly of the feesymple that herryfford had, to me & my heyres. In which attempt I

have fownd good lykeng bothe of her & her frynds, notwithstanding the latenes of her hus **[fol. 30r]** bonds decesse, & yf now I might have som ayde & cowntenance of the Q. majestie & your L. lyke as mi humble zeles & servyce, do entreate for me, I woldd not dowtt butt to obtayne mi purpose, & to be redy even from the very bottom of mi hart to present all that ever I had & mi lyfe to att her majesties feete & yowres, to be employed even to the dethe in suche service as I coud do./ And perhaps prove to be of som ~~stede~~ pore stede in that contry, that had nede of ~~it~~ more devotyon in Religyon & dutye. And partly I am incoraged by her majesties own words [affectunes] [^]repeted & [^]confirmed, that she woldd nott only favor & cowntenance me, [^]doing me ani resonable good she coud[^] butt allso gyve me a C. markes pensyon by the yere, wherin as I am nether importunate nor a craver, so do I humbly implore her majesties ayd & your L. now or never. having your L. Testymony [^]alredy[^] [1 word expunged] (I thanck yow most humbly) under your own hand towards ani wydowe where I woldd sue (though yett I never shewed [^]it[^] to ani) which I do send your L. the copy therof verbatim herin, to th'end I may asswell expresse how muche I am beholdding to your ~~good~~ good L. even inffinitely, as to remember yow therby of the goodnes that ye have used to me & to desire humbly the contynuanche therof, Thus I have opened the whole state of that matter to your L. And to remove [^]all[^] other blocks owtt the waye, that ether might ~~hurt~~ [^]hurt[^] or discredyte me, I shall by master Skyners ayde your L. Secretorye, make som good end with master Wade [^]I hope[^] ~~to~~ & specially yf your L. will vowchesave to say som word therin to master Skyner, ~~Then rests~~ the end wilbe the soner, for it is the hevyst cawse that doth presse me./ Then rests that where I have payd a grett masse of detts, & canott dispatche the remnant so sone (yett I hope bettween this & mydsomer to finisse all) that your L. will [1 word expunged] be so good to renew her majesties comandement uppon me till mydsomer next, accordyng to your former warrant I have **[fol. 30v]** which is unexpired, butt master Recorder desires to be certeffyed a new from your L. that yow have nott discharged it, & then all mi busynes & difficultyes by your L. goodnes & favor were settled & stayed / To which end I have inclosed a new warrant in this verbatim as your olld warrant is. beseching God to reward yow for me & to prosper all your worthy & honorable wise actyons. from Redcrosse strete the iiiijth of november. 1575. your L. most humbly. W. Herlleli.

[Postscript:] There is on mi good L. called hughe lloyd of the marches, who hath earnestlye intreated me to move your L. for your good will that he may be sheriff this yere in Radnorshire. he is the first man that is returned from the marches, & where he had controversy with wallcott, they be agreed. yf so be that your L. will butt shew that I have moved this matter to I have moved this matter to yow & the occasyon servinge for it, his repporrt in the contry may deme good agayn. desyring most humbly that your L. will vowchesave (to th'end I may go abowtt mi busynes & repayre to your L. to signe & sele the lre of your warrant to the recorder & the rest, which I do humbly & most thanckfully attend./

4. Novemb. 1575 William Herle to my L. his proceedings in Wales