

feretis, quod invenietis me paratum et appetitum [?] ad illud quod personæ Catholici Archipresbyteri sit aptum et consentaneum. Sed ut hoc summatim, sic illud particulatim scire certum velim, vtrùm monita omnia, præscripta et proposita Suæ Sanctitatis in Breui suo Apostolico contenta libenti, sincera, et obediendi voluntate secuturi, et per Dei gratiam in moribus vestris expressuri sitis. Si præsto fueritis antecedentibus, fratres [?], mei affectus et effectus erga vos planissimum et plenissimum sensum accipietis. Restat, ut ex literis vestris intelligam an alij Appellantes etiam in vos commissionem aliquam suam respondendi pro ipsis et ipsorum nomine procuracionem transfuderint. Valete, et renouamini spiritu mentis vestræ vt potiora probetis.

3^o Februarij 1602

Vester seruus in Christo

Georgius Blakwellus

Archipresbyter.

Endorsement :

To his verie Loving frends M^r Hebborne, M^r Clerck
and M^r Collington geve these.

30. *Three Letters from Dr. Percy at Rome to friends at Paris.* 54, f. 370.

I.

April, 1603.

Right Woorshipp.

I wold not let passe the occasion, offered by o^r honorable friend mons^r Acaria, but to acknowledge by hym the receyt off three off y^{urs}, the first dated the 24 of februarie, the second havinge no dait, the third writ the 10 off marche: gevinge y^{we} harte thanks for y^{ur} advises off o^r frends arrived in England, and off ther negotiations ther, whereoff I have at large herd by my Lord Embassader . . . who is [fu]ll the most redye and most willinge to asist and to do all honorable offices hear in this court, yea more diligent and cairfull then y^{we} or they at home wold think. to whom, howe all

[in] generall [be] beholden and every one in particuler, that will use his honors, faueur and consell, that I dalye do se and have triall off: and that the Enymie on all occasions hear fyndeth and so feareth, as he dar not put forth his hornes in this place as otherwise he wold have donne, nor Censor [to] maik commentaries or glosses of anye thinge exhibited, for fear he be rencotred [to] his dislikinge. yet knowe I wear in this place *insidiatus sit calcando iniustus, quum aliàs lædere non possit*. I do not think that he spareth others as he maye in *abscondito*. But if men bewair what they do to itt, and talk heed ne *adversarius adulterinum aliquod ex suo immisceat*, kepinge alwayes an origenall off ther doinges, there is no danger I hope. I [trust] men be wyse and discret, as I have said to ffather commissarius that other daye, and that they will not geve upp to any person any thinge in writinge *quod erit extra iudicium et determinationi contrarium*. Nether will ther actions in what compaignie so ever they do live, yea, though they live at the table of the heretiques as prisoners, or in libertie abroad, be such as may geve such occasion of scandall to any man livinge *nisi huiusmodi qui laborat principio (vt aiunt) hoc est qui aut habet ignorantiam in intellectu aut malitiam in voluntate, qui aliorum facta, licet certa et maxime religioni consentanea, instar phariseorum calumniari soleat*. To be brief, so longe as men will consider what a boon sir [?] they have in this place off the kings faueur & protection and off his Embassader, and do nothinge that may geve occasion of suspition or offence to ether off them, I dout not but that the kingmakers signes will come, as is the old proverbe, from a wyndmill post to be pudding prik.

And for his generall letter of peace to y^{we}, wth whom he is so desyrous to have peace, I do think he doth know my lords opinion (I can theroff assure yo^{we}) that it is not convenient for manye causes w^{ch} hear ar to longe to sett do[w]^{ne}, for I knowe like an Esau he hath sought a hear, sed *licet hoc esset cum lachrimis, obtinere non possit vt ego existimo*. alth[ough] all men have that charitie towards hym and wthall others whervnto they ar obliged.

54, f. 370b.

. . . de foedere nullo contrahendo sub specie et larva amicitiae credo (nec enim fallor alias ita existimo) illud nec vtile esse nec consentaneum, imo periculosum, licet sit ex semine Aaron non sequitur quod non decipiet nos. possit enim loqui verbis pacif. . . perimus in dolo. Yo^{we} ar wise and know what is best to do ther 54, f. 371.
 or abroad, saltem vt orationes fiant sive cum isto sive cum alio cum omni charitate hoc enim rogo nec . . . aut Suae Stat^{is} aut Illustriss. Cardinalis animos offendat. Scio quantopere ipsi in rebus gerendis aut tractandis fidem et modestiam ab omnibus expectant et desiderant, as y^{we} have had experience theroff. I pray yo^{we} contynewe y^{ur} course wth my lord and so desier all others to do the lik; they shall have honor and consolation therby. ffor my owne part I desier nothing more off men then this w^{ch} shall content me, being content to hear litle off any matters, God is witnes to whom I do commend yo^{we} and all ther o^r frends. Salutinge y^{we} hartelye and all them.

Rome this 6 off Aprill

I thank you for y^{ur} faueur
 showed m^r Midleton
 yo^w oblige me
 denuo.

Y^us ever
 Will^m Perseus^a

Excuse me and this so evell
 scribled. in treuth I have I
 fear m^r Bluetts disseas

[P. S.]

Concerninge Eliot I leave him to his good angell, the man often 54, f. 371b.
 I do se[e], never yet had talk wth hym but ons that off lait that he delivered me m^r Hills commendations. I know the Colour of his coat and how he is employed hear. God grant he do nothinge that may be offensiff to God or disagreeable to his contrie.

for that you writt off m^r D Smith wth whom I have spoken, he saeth it is most false and in truth it is. And the Referendario

^a So probably. Cf. *Douay Diaries*, p. 374. Mr. Macray reads "Persens."

much abused whose affection towards me I knowe many years past, w^{ch} I do not esteeme off in this place nor off those who have stronger reynes than he hath, be they hear or abroad, as I dout not theroff and have assured advise. Good forgeve them, as I do and be redye not^{wth}standinge, not caring for all practises or æmulations agaynst me whatsoever, to do all offices that belongeth a Christian man to do in this place, wear I mean to staye and dout not off gods providence and the favour off the best hear. so longe as I do syncerlye serve hym as I have done to my power mediante singulari eius providentiæ auxilio et beneficio theis 29 years we longe for the 3 I do hoope they shall a. 4 or longer from hence. I do hear that ffa. Walpole doth p^rnosticon that the priests who have exhibited vpp the memorial shalbe banished. I praye god it be not a p^rnosticon but a practise. I do commend me to y^{we}, et meo charissimo et fideli amico P. Acaria qui hodie discedit. Vale chariss. omnes in domo Ill. legat. te salutant.^a

II.

54, f. 372.

Right woorshipfull and my dear freind.

Yours of the 23 off November wear most gratfull to my lord who red y^{urs} passinge well and was most glad off y^{ur} sayf arrivall, and I wold the iij others had acknowledged at that tyme the obligation they have to my lord nor they to hym to whom at that tyme my Lord doth think they writt from hom. I mean Fitzherbert who off lait vpon some occasions of his letters from Paris commeth seldom or not at all to visit my Lord. Concerninge y^{ur} owen particuler, assure y^{we} my lord will remayne y^{urs} most assured at all occasions in this Court, as he doth assure hymself off y^{ur} fidelitie and constancie and that y^{we} will not fail to writt to hym as occasion shall serve. He hath sent you as he told me the Breve,

^a This and the following letters are indeed "evell scribled" and extremely difficult to decipher. The text is also bleared and blotted in many places, and the paper has been mended here and there, to the detriment of the words.

and Monseny^r Seraphins opinion writt wth his owen hand. for the chalice and vestment dout not off it in tyme, nam quod differtur non aufertur. I dout not but he shall obteyn longe maiora for yo^{we} and y^{ur} frends in this place when occasion shalbe offered.

Ones sence you departed he was in great Coler, concerning the practises of [Fitzherbert]^a y^{ur} fooloppes [?] fellowe wth his frend hear. But as I told hym those practises were onlye off certyn folyshe ambitious imaginations and desyres that the partye had to be a bishoppe si dijs placet. and the litle friar, as sence is discovered, shuld have ben an other. yet is my lord off an other opinion that there is some other practise by mor then this. And 54, f. 372b. iff ther be, all is not off great importance, litle can Jupiter pluvialis constare domi (?) as his agent hear. yet do I desier y^{we} to have a cair and to break all courses or practises whatsoever iff they do not commit the same wth my lord. and for manye reasons w^{ch} you may conceave and consider ether nowe or hereafter.

In conserving my Lord and his faveur in this Court y^{we} not onlye shall from tyme to tyme curbe [?] fa. p.^b and his compaignons but overthrowe all his designes at home and abroad. Yo^{we} shall alwayes have hym redye to do and speak in this place and in that Court as also y^{we} shall conserve his dear frend the Embassader in England and mak hym redye to do for Catholicikes ther as this man is most redye to do for them all here.

Parsons of lait was wth Card d'Ossay speine queen observantine [?], but revera to vtter his fears forsoth he hath . . . illam vt ille loq^{ur}, ne heretic . . . intelligentiam, fides periclitet^r cum nihil miser ille magis tundat quam ne lris co'silijs regnu' ipsius corruat.

He dar not visit my lord, but wth the Card he was bold to vtter his fears, forsoth, he hath off y^{ur} negotiations, the cair he saith off the publique good and off his nation. O vox serpentina, cum ille nunquam xpm sed quæ sua sunt tantum quæsit.

By the next I shall send you that w^{ch} y^{we} desier at Minerva w^{ch}

^a The name partly erased. ^b Or, perhaps, "jap." Compare vol. i. pp. 96, 97.

54, f. 373.

is granted ad instantiam R. patris Commissarij who hartelye saluteth y^{we} as also doth the ffather Regent off that Convent. All at my lords salut y^{w³} maxime vterque medicus spiritualis et corporalis, all at S^t Lewys also. maxime R^{ds} D. pastor et D. natalis et noel. Remember me at home and wher y^{we} are. Vale. 25 Decēbris Romæ ceptum . . Salutinge hartelye d^o.

[Then follows immediately, beginning in same line:]

Mr Bagshawe,

fear y^{we} not that I doe forget anye particular y^{we} left wth me in charge, God grant y^{we} maye sayf arrive. Seek by all means possible to break all practises either ther wher y^{we} ar or at home. Y^{we} have begon I trust the best Course that ever was begon for the Catholiques, iff men will vse the same as they ought to do. Dolman nor all his adherents in this place will never be able to do anye thinge to the Contrarie, nor be able to molest the least or meanest Catholique this daye. Some ther be that have intelligence wth Dolman and fitzherbert his assistant, but I think iff they love ther owen securitie they will alter that Course. Let m^r D. Bishopp bewair. one hear off no litle accompt, whom y^{we} knowe, said to me that the partye was a badd compagnon, in french, c'est vn mauvais home bishopp. But by y^{ur} advise he will become of other

O^r Lord p^rserve y^{we} for ever desyryng y^{we} to salut y^rself from me millies millena, and all at home in particular m^r Alban and Antonie Ecchaude et reliquos amicos nostros, and to dispose off me for ever.

burne this when y^{we}
rede it.

Y^{urs} ever as y^{ur} owen

Will^m Perseus

Endorsed by writer: A Monsieur
Monsieur Bluett. pstre
Anglois a paris.

In another hand: Perseus to M^r Bluett 1603.

III.

[I] have writt vnto yo^w (by mons^r de Creilles meanes to his 54. f. 374
 sister) off y^{ur} affaires wth his holines and the Card. Burgesse,
 howe the pope after he saw the Card., reed the Nuncio his letter
 [an]d y^{re} owen, presentlye commaunded the Card. to signifye [th]at
 he was most willinge, grantinge y^{we} facultates abeuntibus
 in Angliam w^{ch} be those y^w do in y^{urs} [to] r^{ie} demand. by the
 next post I shall send y^{we}, iff [th]e Card. do not hym self, his
 letters to y^{we} for all. [B]e merie in God who will love those that
 suffer for [h]ym. Hear Parsons and his ar strok dead wth this
 newes, [n]ot off her death but that the same daye [K]inge James
 was procl[a]med kinge off England etc, w^{ch} proclamation was
 geven to his holines in latyn by my L. Embassadeur vppon the
 19 off this instant, she dyinge the 3 off this same. Some saye
 wth great reluctance,* others add not wth out suspection to die a
 Catholique. God grant the last be trewe. and the first also. yo^w
 wold wonder to see nowe how mens desynes are broken, et quo-
 modo evanuerunt homines . . . in cogitationibus suis. and some
 others kinge makers abroad do not depart yet, but staye a while, for
 iff need be I knowe iff this proclamation do taik place off frends
 abroad fitt for y^{ur} retorne and assurance at home. Writt to me in
 a[n]ye caise and desier m^r D. Damsen [?] off the [. . .]e Vale,
 Salutinge yo^{we} both. I will deall [wi]th Dolman for y^{ur} monye
 whereof I have no great hoope but I will not fail to do this . . .
 sire for y^{we} and what els so ever in this place y^{we} ar much be-
 holden to the Nuncio who writt most honorablye. also to Card.
 Burgess. and to my lord hear. Vale 21 Aprilis Romæ tuus

Perseus.

Salut from me m^r D. Cecill. Spayn hear seemeth to be glad of
 the proclamation and to lik of the election and procedings in

* Or 'reticence'?

England. God grant the Catholiqu[u]es at home and abroad consolation and save o^r contrye from civil ware.

A Mons^r
 Mons^r Midleton gentlehme
 et prste Anglois a paris
 . . . son absence a mons^r
 . . . au Colledge
 de Cambraye a
 Paris.

[*Endorsed in another hand:*]

D^r [*Cecyll erased*] to M^r Midleton from Rome.

54, f. 398.

31. *Petition to the Privy Council from Prisoners in Framlingham Castle.*^a

1603.

To the right honorable y^e LL. of her ma^{ties} most honorable privie counsell.

In most humble wise do sue vnto yo^r honorable LL^{pp^s} yo^r dailie orators y^e priests and laie men imprisoned in y^e castle of fframingham, y^b whereas certaine orders directed of late from yo^r honours to y^e Justices of peace assigned for this place were published to y^e saied prisoners in y^e common hall by M^r Anthonie Wingfielde, Knight, and m^r Candey esquier, and therevppon y^e keeper of y^e castle straightlie commaunded to see them putt in execution, vz. amongst others: first that all servaunts belonging to y^e prisoners shoulde presentlie be dischardged; second, y^b no maintenaunce shoulde be delivered vnto them butt in y^e presence of y^e keeper or of his deputie; thirde, y^b all y^e saied prisoners shoulde be referred over to y^e keepers diett: Itt maye please yo^r honorable LL^{pp^s} to vouchsalfe y^e hearing of their humble petitions.

^a Several of the priests whose signatures are given below were transferred from other prisons to Framlingham after the accession of James in 1603, and were shortly afterwards in the same year banished the kingdom.