

SUMMARY: The document below is a summary of a letter written in Italian on 12 March 1575 by Giovanni Francesco Morosini (1537-1596), the Venetian ambassador in France, to the Venetian Signory mentioning Oxford's arrival in Paris and alluding to his earlier flight from England without the Queen's licence.

For other documents mentioning Oxford's departure from England without licence on 1 July 1574 and his return to England and restoration to the Queen's favour, see TNA SP 12/45, p. 59; TNA SP 12/45, p. 60; TNA SP 15/26/1, f. 73; the will of Edmund Yorke, TNA PROB 11/89/243; and CSP ROME, 1572-1578, No. 336.

For the letter below, see No. 619 in *Calendar of State Papers Relating To English Affairs in the Archives of Venice, Volume 7, 1558-1580*, ed. Rawdon Brown and G Cavendish Bentinck (London, 1890), *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/cal-state-papers/venice/vol7> [accessed 9 June 2020].

March 12
Original Despatch
Venetian Archives

619. Giovanni Francesco Morosini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Signory.

The day before yesterday his Majesty sent Monsieur de La Chatre to England to reply to the mission which the Queen of England sent to his Majesty by Lord North, and to endeavour to renew negotiations for peace, and to prevent, if in time, the Queen from giving assistance in money to the rebels, who are believed to have received the sum which I mentioned on the 17th of last month, because Monsieur de Meru, the brother of the Marshal de Montmorency who had gone to England on account of this negotiation, had not yet left that kingdom.

An English gentleman, whose name is the Earl of Oxford, has arrived in this city. He is a young man of about twenty or twenty-two years of age. It is said that he fled from England on account of his inclination to the Catholic religion, but having returned he received great favour from the Queen, who gave him full licence to travel and see the world when she ascertained that he had resolved to depart under any circumstances.

Paris, 12th March 1575

[Italian]