SUMMARY: The document below consists of an extract from the Acts of the Privy Council stating that on 15 April 1576 the Council dispatched Robert Beale to the Low Countries to complain of the attack on Oxford's ship by pirates from Flushing on his return to England across the Channel in April 1576.

See Dasent, John Roche, ed., *Acts of the Privy Council of England*, New Series, Vol. IX, (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1894), pp. 102-3 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=Hlc0AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA102&lpg=PA102&dq=%22a+spoile+committed+upon+thearle+of+Oxford%22&source=bl&ots=BsdP1JQP-l&sig=TS4ZWtBIEgnBG_cnr2oEwjO9bkA&hl=en&sa=X&ei=vnj_VNDlCYG0ogT-k4LQCw&ved=0CCAQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=%22a%20spoile%20committed%20upon%20thearle%20of%20Oxford%22&f=false.

For Robert Beale (1541-1601), see the *ODNB* entry.

LM: English and Dutch pirates

. . . . The same day Mr Beale was dispatched towards the Low Country upon occasion of a spoil committed upon th' Earl of Oxford at the seas in his passage, and for other injuries done by them of Flushing against divers of her Majesty's subjects, according to instructions remaining in the hands of Mr Secretary Walsingham.

A letter to th' Earl of Oxford signifying what their Lordships had done in respect of that injury done unto him, that Mr Beale should come unto him to be informed of the manner of the outrage and the particulars of his losses, and either to deliver him perfect instructions or to send some servant of his with him that know his stuff and whereof he made most account.

For his dispatch there were signed by their Lordships sundry letters of credit for Mr Beale, as to the Prince of Orange and the Admiral and Flushing, and the Governor of Middelburg.

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