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SUMMARY: The document below is a scribal copy in Sir Francis Walsingham's files of an undated letter, apparently written in 1581, which is calendared in the State Papers Domestic 1581-1590 (p.40) as having been written by Charles Arundel to Mr Dorsey [=Darcy?]. However the content of the letter, and the content of TNA SP/12/151/55, f. 116, to which it appears to relate, do not comport well with Arundel's circumstances at the time. If the handwriting of the letter cannot be firmly identified as Arundel's, there would thus seem to be some doubt as to whether he was its author. It may be that the letter is entirely unrelated to Arundel. If the letter does relate to Arundel, it seems that he was involved in sending money overseas, perhaps to some of the Catholic exiles there, a circumstance which would lend support to Oxford's allegations against him.

My hope is, good Mr. Dorsey, that you will excuse my want of writing all this while, considering the forwardness of my goodwill if the surety of the convey had been suitable.

Touching your late request, though I were not able to perform it in such ample sort as I desired in reason of my devotion to the party to whose benefit it tends, yet as far as it would stretch I have employed my stock, and further than either I knew which way to compass before I took the course in hand and made a proof, or any other, saving they that may most command, could have urged me to retrieve(?).

I doubt not but many in these days can give fair words which cost them only the labour of their lips, but because I would not have you trust too far to false supporters and rotten staves against a time of need, I could wish that you made some proof of their goodwills in act before you were enforced by necessity. Perhaps it will appear that the highest mountains bear not ever the rankest carppe(?), and that as faithful minds are covered with taffety as with tissue. Thus wishing to you and yours as to mine own self, and better if it may be, I recommend [+you] to Our Lord.