
SUMMARY: In this letter written from London to Dudley Carleton on 12 March 1605 [=1606], John Chamberlain mentions that Oxford's son-in-law, Francis, 2nd Baron Norris of Rycote, has been at the sea-side ten or twelve days waiting to return to England after having remained in Paris for several months following a serious illness. The transcript below is taken from McClure, Norman Egbert, *The Letters of John Chamberlain*, Vol. I, (Philadelphia: The American Philosophical Society, 1939) pp. 216-7.

Sir, the letter sent by your brother was left at my lodging, I know not how or from whom. I wish it may bring you better contentment than I can send you. On Saturday I went to Sir Walter Cope to know the success of your letter, which he had not yet showed to the great Lord, but promised to do it without fail with the next opportunity. I told him by way of speech it was not enough to show a bare letter unless he did second it with some good affection, and that I doubted he did not use to reply and urge. Yes, quoth he, as familiarly as I do now with you, unless it be a matter where I see him directly bent to the contrary. On Monday I was at him again, but he had not yet delivered it, but wished me to come again the next morning, which I did, and then he told me how he had moved my Lord in good terms for your travel, which he would in no wise hear of till your Lord's causes were ended. Then he spake of your coming to the parliament because you were weary of idleness and doing nothing, but neither would that be granted. Why, said Sir Walter, his fellow Frances comes. Do you make their cases alike, quoth my Lord, when he is accused by two witnesses to be privy to the hiring of the house for the main blow? Sir Walter answered you stood so much on your innocency that you did not believe there could be any such witness produced. Nay, but I assure you, there are, said my Lord, and he hath been favourably dealt with that the matter hath been no further looked into. So that I see you must bear off this storm as well as you may, and ride it out at anchor till the weather grow more calm.

We hear nothing yet of the Lord Norris nor Sir Thomas Parry's arrival, who they say hath been at sea-side these ten or twelve days. You have lost your wedding-gloves by being away at the marriage of the young couple that was performed on Monday. My Lady Fanshawe is going out of town this morning, so that I must make short, and leave you to the reading of the little news in the enclosed, which I pray you seal and send to Ascott. And so in post-haste, I commit you to God. From London this 12th of March 1605 [=1606].

Yours most assuredly,

John Chamberlain

To my assured good friend, Master Dudley Carleton, give these at Huntercombe.