
SUMMARY: The document below is a letter dated 26 May 1605 [=16 May Old Style?] from the Catholic conspirator, Thomas Morgan (1543-1611?), to Oxford's first cousin, Sir Francis Vere (1560/1-1609). For background to the letter see CP 113/16.

Right worshipful,

Whenas your brother and you were in this place in your young years you thought well to serve yourselves of my labours and friendship, first to make you acquainted with the Duke of Guise that was massacred at Blois, & with th' ambassador of her Majesty of Scotland of blessed memory, in these points I served your turn to your honour and satisfaction, and I think that the first arms that ever you bare was under that noble prince, which afterwards encouraged you (in my opinion) to follow the wars, as I have heard, to your honour & commendation.

You and your brother were at that time utterly disfurnished of money to supply your necessity, insomuch that you both demanded of me the loan of some money. Forasmuch as my store was not great, I advised you both t' address yourselves to serve your turn with Sir Amyas Paulet and other principal personages of our nation then resident in this city. After you had been with them, you came to me again and told me that you could have no money at their hands, whereupon of the small provision I had I delivered you about a hundred crowns, which you promised with many thanks to render me again in short time.

But sithence I never heard from either of you both, but assured myself always that at the last you would acquit yourselves towards me as honour & conscience command you to do. And with that assurance I stayed to this day, and never by pen or by mouth demanded either my money or any pleasure at your hands. And were it not that the necessity of my business doth urge me to call upon you for reason herein, I had rather pass this matter with silence as I have done of many years than to revive your memory thereof, seeing you cannot take pleasure to hear of your error committed towards me, though I easily forgive it, but desire you to restore my said money to Sir Robert Dormer to help t' acquit me of some money I had of the Duchess of Feria, his sister. And so doing you shall find me ready to serve and honour you in all I may, as God knoweth, to whose protection I commit you. Paris, this 26th of May 1605.

Your always assured,

Thomas Morgan

If your brother be living, I pray you to commend me unto him.

Endorsed: To the right worshipful Sir Francis Vere, knight

Endorsed (partly in a later hand?): Thomas Morgan to Sir Francis Vere, 1605(?), May 26, 1605