

SUMMARY: The document below is a summary of a letter in Italian dated 16 April 1575 written from Venice by Don Cesare Carrafa to Marcantonio Colonna (1535-1584) mentioning the arrival in Venice on 13 April 1575 of William Russell (c.1553–1613), later 1st Baron Russell of Thornhaugh (c.1553–1613), and Lord Deputy of Ireland, in whose company Oxford traveled to Paris in late March 1576. See TNA SP 70/137, ff. 322-3:

My Lord of Oxford hath passed through all the camp very well, and is arrived here in very good health, and Mr William Russell with him.

See No. 395 in *Calendar of State Papers Relating To English Affairs in the Vatican Archives, Volume 2, 1572-1578*, ed. J M Rigg (London, 1926), *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/cal-state-papers/vatican/vol2> [accessed 9 June 2020].

Archivio Particolare

395. Don Cesare Carrafa to Marco Antonio Colonna.

We have no intelligence from Constantinople since that which I sent your Excellency last week. His Excellency Soranzo will depart thither in the course of three or four days. There is still news from Flanders that matters are as good as arranged, and the like is said of affairs in France, whence it is reported that that brother of the King is still not sound in his head, and that the Queen Mother had cursed him for some trifle or another, and at the King's instance had returned to bless him. There has arrived here from Vienna Don Diego Manrich, the Empress' major-domo, who goes to Rome to receive the most holy Jubilee. He lodges in the house of the Imperial ambassador.

From Spain the day before yesterday, I was told by the Catholic ambassador that there is no news whatever, nor is aught known of Don John. As to Genoa it is said that Giovanni Andrea Doria was minded to put there I know not how many soldiers, and that the affair was discovered, but our ambassador says that it is not true. Signor Sforza is well and out of bed, and told me yesterday that he would depart for S. Arcangelo in the course of three or four days.

Three days ago there arrived here Sir William Russell, son of the Earl of Ubelfort [Bedford], a great lord of England, and one of the Queen's Council of State. He is going to Rome or Naples. Our ambassador makes much of him, as do also the Signory. He dined with me the day before yesterday. His Serenity is a great friend of his father. The Arsenal has been shown him, and other things worth a visit, and it has fallen to my lot to be ever with him.

16 April, 1575
Venice

[Italian]