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office of a priest, and refuses to subject himself, according to statute, or to state what houses he has visited; being asked if he would take Her Majesty's part against the Pope, said it was a future contingent, and he knows not what he should do; that truth is not to be told at all times, and that it is a point of honesty not to disclose anything which might cause harm. [2½ *pages.*]

March 14. 25. R. H. to the Earl of Huntingdon, Lord President of the North. Asks him to appoint places in London and Hull whither to direct letters; those directed to Wm. Wilson are for his Lordship. If he asks his Lordship to commend him to his sister, and tells him his brother Robert is dead, it means there is no likelihood of invasions or wars. If he writes he is in good health and will speedily return, it means there is great preparation for war against [England]. If he says his brother will land at Dover, the provision is for Ireland; but if he says he will land at London, and desires Mr. Agard, Mr. Wormall, or some of their Yorkshire attorneys, to help him to money, the provision is for the south parts; if he writes he will land at Hull, the preparation is for the north; if at Newcastle, it is for Scotland. If he commends himself to his brother, W. Hammond, then Sir Wm. Stanley is to go for Ireland; if to his brother Thomas, then seminaries are to come over as intelligencers. If he asks him to be careful of his daughter Ursula, there is treason contriving against the Queen's person; if he says there is nothing to do in that country, and he is departing, he is then travelling to Rome. If he use the words, there is no news but such an one is dead, come, or gone, naming the matter or the man, then the thing is true. Will write by his man's hand; it would be a needless charge going to London; would rather be able to swear he has not [seen] the Queen, or Lord Treasurer (from whom they imagine all practices to come), these 24 years. Will tell them that, until he went to prison, he lived amongst the best sort of people in Yorkshire, by which means he well knows the country, and the estate and conditions of the people.

If there is any forwardness of service against this country, and they account him a cipher, will return home; but if they take him for a gentleman having many friends in the country, and able to serve in so good a cause, will desire directions. With note that these were the material points in the letter; that R. H. offered to go over at his own charge, and to expect nothing unless he did service, his end being to discharge the part of an honest man to his country. That he is a Catholic, and of some estate, has done some service for the Lord President, and is able to do more. [*Abstract by T. Phelippes.* 2 *pages.*]

[March 14.] 26. Lord Keeper Puckering to Sir Robt. Cecil. Sends Mr. Attorney's letter, desiring directions whether to proceed against Ferrera and Louis, in the absence of the Lord Chief Justice. Justice Fenner is the only judge in commission who is likely to be in London until Easter, and he will not have ended his circuit at Aylesbury and be able to come till Thursday week. Mr. Attorney,