

## VOL. CCLXXXVII.

1603.  
[Feb. 5.] 23. The Queen to [the lord lieutenants and justices of counties]. The Council hears complaints from the maritime ports of losses through the shipping of the King of Spain and the Archduke on the coasts, which lies in wait where their ships must pass, and entraps them when single. We have therefore determined to appoint ships to guard the merchants; our own ships would be too chargeable to go to and fro, so other ships will have to be appropriated, which must be chiefly maintained by voluntary contribution, the burden of our own fleet constantly increasing. You have our warrant how and with whom to deal for this levy; you are therefore to direct letters for a speedy collection, to furnish 10 or 12 ships only for that service, we supplying them with munition and freeing them from all customs for goods taken as prize. Their continuance is to depend upon their expense and success. [ $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages.]
24. Draft of the above. [*Corrected by Cecil; Endorsed 26 Jan. 1603.*  $2\frac{1}{4}$  pages.]
- Feb. 5. 25. Additional clause in the preceding letter, as sent to the Lord President of Wales. The inconvenience is imminent, and what is obtained must be from the forward disposition of individuals. We have not therefore directed letters particularly to the lieutenants or other supreme officers, but to all the justices of the counties. Yet knowing that the persuasion of the greatest furthers such services, as it is impossible for us to defray these expenses, we require you to procure a speedy collection, ourself paying for the munition and freeing the ships from customs. We approve your purpose to see the state of the country, and thank you for your care of the government. [ $2\frac{3}{4}$  pages.]
- Feb. 9. 26. Dr. Thos. Jegon to Sec. Cecil. Pardon my boldness in writing to you. My brother and I are destitute of friends. Your favour is our only means to mitigate the displeasure conceived against us through misinformation. Pray give me leave to speak with you thereon. [ $\frac{2}{3}$  page.]
- Feb. 10. 27. Certificate by Wm. Smith, vice-chancellor, and 10 other heads  
Cambridge. of colleges in Cambridge University, to the good conduct and learning of Dr. Benj. Charier, senior fellow of Corpus Christi College, and to his fitness for a place of government. [1 page, copy.]
- Feb. 11. 28. John Chamberlain to Dud. Carleton at the Lord Ambassador's  
London. in Paris. Private affairs. Mr. Winwood has been but once with Mr. Secretary, but is to go with him to Court to-morrow. Your friends have consulted on your affairs, but time and patience must be your medicine till it be seen how Mr. Winwood's return will affect you. I wish you would remember Mr. Cope. Capt. Whiddon is come from Ireland, weary of those wars.
- Tyrone, Tyrrell, and most of the rebels are retired to the north; they have slain Capt. Malby and most of his company. A Spanish ship laden with wool, wine, and oil, has been wrecked at Dover in a mist. A Hollander from the East Indies was driven by famine to such extremities that the men ate one another, and afterwards grew