

Copy of an order from the Privy Council to Sir William Ellis, member of the King's Council at York, 1622 July 15: autograph manuscript signed. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS X.d.623, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.

leaf 1 recto

A *lettre* to the Lord President and Councell established in the North vpon Informacion from divers Mynisters of that Country as also vpon Complaint made both to his Maiestie and to vs of his Councell by James Nelson Mynister and Parson of Crofton in that County of Yorke: Wee haue taken notice of a strainge and disgracefull vsage offered to this poore Mynister whoe being before yow his Maiesties Councell at Yorke by occasion of a Suite depending there, was questioned by Sir William Ellis in the heareing of the whole Court for wearing the haire of his head some what longer be hinde then ordinarie, and when the Minister replied that it was by reason of a greate hurt not longe before received in his heade from some that sett vpon him on the high way to the hazard of his life, *which* appeares to be true and to haue ben alledged by the Mynister for cause of his so wearing it, and not that hee had any will to give ill example by it or tooke any pleasure therein, but only was forced a while to suffer it for his health sake, yet Sir William Ellis not regarding either the Mynisters person his calling or the reason hee alledged presently comaunded an Officer of the Court to take the Mynister and carrie him forth to a Barbors Shopp and to see his haire cutt shorte, and then to bring him backe in to the Court againe, *which* had it ben but for the parties health in such a tyme might haue ben forborne but being don after such a manner and at such a presence tended not only to the exceeding reproach, and shame of the man being there made a publike scorne and laughing stocke to all the Courte but as it was acted vpon a Mynister was a kinde of dispite and scandall to Religion. ffor this ill carriage Sir William Ellis being by his Maiesties speciall command called before this Boarde, though hee hath acknowledged the ffact, and confessed the same to be vnadvisedly and inconsiderately don. Yet for asmuch as the disgrace resteth not only vpon the person of Nelson, but trencheth to the Scandall of the Mynistrie, and so requireth a more publicke satisfaccion Wee haue thought meete to addresse theis our *lettres* to *your* *llordships* & to signifie vnto yow, that ffirst wee thinke it fitt Sir William Ellis doe give the Mynister Twenty poundes for his charges in comeing hither to london, and doe also hold it

leaf 1 verso || leaf 2 recto

hold it very requisite that at the next generall Sessions to

be holden at Yorke these *our lettres* be there publickely reade
and that Sir William Ellis doe there at the same tyme
acknowledg this his iniurie to the partie and offence to the
wholl Mynistrie, *which* wee should not haue holden sufficient
satisfaccion for so fowle an abuse and disgrace, if wee had
not had respect to the qualitie and place Sir William Ellis
holdeth in his *Maiesties* Service there, and also to his greate age
and infirmities otherwise. And so praying yow to see theis
our direccions duly performed. Wee bid &c/

Signed by the

Lord Archbishop of Canterbury

Lord Keeper Lord Chamberlen

Lord Treasurer Lord viscount ffalkland

Lord President Lord Bishop Winton

Lord Priuy Seale Master Secretary Caluert

Lord Stewarde Master of the Rolles

Sir John Sucklinge./

leaf 2 verso

A Coppy of sir William
Ellis his order made by
the *Llordships* of his *Maiesties* priuy
Cownsell, concerning the
the powling of Mr Nelson
15 Iuly 1622