The cause I am to trouble y^e. withall at this present, is so full of iustice on my side, that, first, I dare dispute it even before y^e., the next interessed in it of all men, and secondly, doe presumie to guie over the advantage of my better known and accustomed language, ~~[illegible]~~ to free y^e. of the pains of interpreting what shall be said to Mylladie Killigrew, against whome by her own will, ~~and~~ knoweth, much against mine, I am to undertake indirectly this ~~[illegible]~~ quarrel ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~; my custome being not to enter into contestations wth. Ladies; as indeed I would have been loth to stirr even by reflexion ~~[illegible]~~ in this particular, were it not that ~~I thought~~ finding my honour so farr attained by it, ~~[illegible]~~ ~~for shame~~ I could not for shame neglect ~~[illegible]~~ to disgage it.

~~To~~ The ground of all ~~must~~ may be laid open by a plaine ~~[illegible]~~ recital of y^e. sonn Charles his life, ~~and proceedings~~ carriage and ending in these Countries. It was, as y^e. may remember, about my returning home from ~~of~~ the last journey I made into England, that y^e. thought fitt to send him Page to the late Prince of orange, desiring me wee I should come to the Hague again to have an eye upon him, and direct his youth the best I could. A thing that I was not more bound and willing to promise the actually readie to performe. How I performed it, as it is not convenient to be told by my self, so I dare call to witnesse for it not onely the Courts of both Princes (nay this living Prince himself) but even the cheef an principal English gentleman that lived here all the while. The same Courts and Gentlemen ~~[illegible]~~ shall testifie ~~[illegible]~~ how little I gained upon the poore youth, nay, how, notwithstanding chiding, prayer, admonitions from the very beginning to the

[illegible] and entertaining of him at my Mothers [illegible] and mine afterwards

^ it was not possible to divert him from the vilest Company the Haghe afoards, and found in favour, as Pages, Laqueys and the like, with whom [illegible]

side of his vertues, he rann headlong after all kinde of debauching. Such so farr, that for the conclusion of all, ~~he left Prince, Court and friends, and never would give any reason why [illegible]~~ ~~desperation [illegible]~~ finding himself desperately engaged in many debts, and ayming at a full [illegible] of libertie of life without the bonds of [illegible] #

[illegible] Mennonians, [illegible] his business for [illegible] going worse and worse the new captaine was to [illegible] Souldiers, [illegible] English into Denmark, suffered, as may be thought, want and miseries, and finally turned home into England, where having accused not, as the lost sonne, himself, but others (which is the maine knott of all the business) to justifie his owne faults before his parents, he came again to us, at the siege of Bolduque, reconciled as I saw, to his father, and with new advise from his friends to be received Gentleman of the Prince his chamber. By the answers of Sr Ed. Harwood and mine you saw there how the Prince agreed it conditionally, so that having first trained a pike under Sr Ed.s Company for some moneths, he should by degrees be brought to the Court againe, whither, for examples sake, he mought not be received so suddenly. ~~[illegible]~~ This resolution take, he getting leave to goe for some businesse, as he told us, unto the Haghe, groweth sick in the way at Rotterdam and suddenly dieth.

~~After all [illegible]~~, as I wondered very deeply your Wife would leave divers of my letters touching this and other matters unanswered, or at least, how so many

[Margin:]

and ayming at a full

he left Prince, Court and friends, without so much as ever giving any reason of so shamefull a retreat, notwithstanding I & others did urge upon it, seeing him inclined to such a resolution

^ and [illegible] others as [illegible], from which the truth is I did endeavour to pull him off by all kind of friendly and sometimes threatning exhortations.

could miscarrye Sr. Ed. Harwood did me the favour
putt me out of that by certainty wth the last of all wch being directed by him at length
I gott upon it, a kind of answer of wch (to be the shorter) I will deliver yr here a copie.

Sr. Yt say not but wonder that yr Roede think it brass.
What shadow reason Myladie Kill. had to deale wth me in this
fashion I refer it to yr owne consideration, and to the truth
of the things before recited. Onely intreating yr to beleeve
that whereas by many a witnesse and in christian conscience I do know my self free from
doing otherwise wth yr sonne then I would others did to me and mine,
it greeveth me exceedingly to see my sincere will and
affection payed wth brass and opinion of the vilest of all vices,
unthankfullnesse of wch for all that I think nor yr countrime
nor mine did ever taxe me but injustly. My calling sir,
grieveth me occasion to doe good to many, my inclination to
more, and this is the reputation I dare brage of before
the world. Were it not so, could I have so bearky
as to neglect both my promise, and the many reasons I
had in yr Lowre to think my self bound to the
good and service of yr and yrs. It greeveth me, I say, to the
[illegible], and this is all. To Myladie yr Wife, who
for a conclusion doth wish me all misery, I wish from
God all mightie, all good and happiness, desiring this
onely favour at her hands, that when at one time or
other, passion (wch indeed in the fresh wounds of a mother heart is to be excused)
shall have made some wonne for reason in her mind, she
will be pleased to consider that as for the maint faulty

… sone [illegible] Chris of, [illegible] leaueing her sonne a dying without
assistance or consolation, the same thinge could have happened
to my wife or brother, whilst full of [illegible] small businesses, and yet
ignorance of what might happen to him, I lay in the fields, some
forty miles from Dorchester, and banished from my owne
house and children the space of a full half yeare. At
Winter time
for the Stalmarke [illegible] thanke God I had no disease, seeing
[illegible] that I should either have dyed for a fitt of cold caught in the open ayre, if I had not gone out of window,
falling sicke at
Dorchester, where I lached rather for want of necessary [illegible] the better he dyeth
meanes or money, then
may speake for him, and prove him [illegible] of this could vpon such
accounts. I can not tell
S[ir] Ed. Harwood et [illegible] I never [illegible] layd vpon his good name, the truth is
that time had taken
him as it did [illegible] (and he is right [illegible] charitably) that
in this particular he did never vse whispring against
into his speciall care [illegible] some but ones, which God knoweth (and I am loth to
and I am sure [illegible]
would shake it if a dead man) his friend it [illegible] day.
are vse him vnder to make the
of what he might
Well indeed both he and I did pitty his youth as we ought
have need of for to doe, this one [illegible] his parents sonne and [illegible]
his [illegible]
to the steeple Bindon [illegible] for hiring men, as the [illegible] y[e]
than for my part [illegible]
in [illegible] order and spend [illegible] my owne [illegible] I could find out of pa[r]tion, and so, little
the Lords wrote to [illegible] Elsyhood than either the stalmer would willingly
his. I did more doubt
her than vpon the [illegible] dispeace y[e] one [illegible] displease him vpon the certain
[illegible] [illegible]
ciliation w[i]th his parents
he came well provided
from the [illegible] letter of good [illegible] assistance.
means. So that then
I must confesse I [illegible] [illegible] my self and my [illegible]
him no enemies, nor [illegible]
asked any thing as many
the one brethren
[illegible]
[illegible] shall have
what [illegible] more, nor
[illegible] I was
[illegible] against strong
[illegible] Lord, am [illegible] to find [illegible] a new [illegible] occasion of new
I owe [illegible] and therefore [illegible] craving pardon for having [illegible] provoked to
[illegible] of y[e] mirth, [illegible] a better argument [illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible]
of a cruel and [illegible] meaning inclination to y[e] [illegible] I [illegible]
at last to shew y[e] then without reason I have [illegible] the style of [illegible]