Sir

When I tooke my leave of you, I did not thinke
it had binne for soe longe a time as I feare it will bee, neverthelesse
though by necessity my sicke body must be retired, my mind
and my affection shall never be retired from the remembrance
of soe much worth and vertue as I know to bee in you, which is
the cause that makes me make this suite, that you will make
me soe much beholding to you as to continue the remembrance
of me by a line or two some times to let me know how you doe
which I shall requite with all harty affection.

The bearer hereof is the wagonmaster of my regiment who
hath but a small entertaynment from it, the captaines giving
him onely three guilders a monthe which is halfe a souldiers pay
and that not well pd of some captaines, which makes him spend
as much as it is worth, to goe and seeke to gett it, yet it hath
binne an antient entertaynment ever since ye troopes began
his humble suite to you is that you will procure his Excies
letter for him that his entertaynmt may hence forward be
paid to the Colonells sollicitor, that he need not be at that charge
to seeke it as I said before, and I doubt not but he hath these
partes in him that he may doe his Excie: and the lands good service for it
better then manie Ingenieres that have greater entertaynment
for he drawes well, both by Scale and perspective, and
modells well according to proportion, and a good petardier
and understanding in fireworkes and ffortifications, valiant
and honest, and more cunning in greate inventions then in
little, able to ~~invente ante~~ imitate anie thing he sees, and above all
his inventions, he doth undertake it that shooting a petar oute of a
peece of ordinance a good distance of to blow up anie ship or
a greate parte of it, which he will undertake at his owne charge
if it will pleaise his Excie to procure him a patent or some [illegible]
as it is usuall with all men that are the first inventors, for the rest
I leave to your consideracon to make triall of desiring you will
doe me the favor to protect him in my absence, and to stand

4

and words whatever he performe that wch I have promised he shall doe, and soe I rest.

I'r most affectionate servante
to be commanded

[illegible signature]

Rotterdam 23o Augusti
1631 stilo vet.

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To his noble and worthy freind
Sr Constantine Huggens
knt Secretary to the
Prince of orange
de Legit

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