

doubt in him of the contrarie this answere doth importe yo^r wisdome can well perceyve, & may thereby the better iudge and see of what necessitie for those distressed priests the shewing of yo^r letters is ; not only to the immediate dispenser there, but also to many catholiks abroad that be slack towards their relief, happily vpon the aforesayd feare or doubt, conceyved either of themselves or by the teaching of others, it being verie appar[ent] that neither that slacknes can be w^hout some motives, nor . . .^a motives want their cause & beginning. I have layd . . . thus before yo^r eyes the necessities of my brethren and made the causes to appeare from whome the same must needs proceed, & w^hall the meanes wh[ere]by they may be helped, charitie & their necessitie inforcing me so to do. you know yo^r office, & the charge wherew^h you stand burdened, & can well foresee of what example to catholiks yo^r charitie equally extended to them w^h the rest there would be, what helpe yo^r letters may bring them ; & what hindrance of relief and increase of their wants yo^r silence will procure : and I need not tell you how men will marke to see what you doe in this matter, & by yo^r deed gather your minde, those at least who know I writte, & will look to see your answere ; therin to receyve satisfaction ; w^{ch} answere once again I besich to haue, and that w^h yo^r first convenience, least through wante thereof my indeuours in this meane time taken for my bretheren be hindered, whose needes you see to be so great as they cannot suffer any long delays. this 11th of November. 1602

yo^r R. most obedient

A. H.

24. *Letter from Blackwell in answer to Heborne.*

[Original.]

54, f. 241

17 Nov. 1602.

Sir

I would have you not to be so vehement in a matter, wherein I am blamelesse. I have considered them of Framingham further

^a Edge of MS. torn off here.

then my receipts can well allowe: w^{ch} ar nott so greate as they ar reported in a place, where nothing but truthe should be vttered. God knoweth they ar but small: and yet by sparing from my selfe, being contented to live in meaner condicion then any of yo^r adherents, they of Framingham have receaved yearly from me in common above six scoare pounds. Let M^r Bramston, to whom commonly I send, give his testimonie of my respect towards them, for whom yo^r patheticall complaint ys devised; yea these vngratefull persons being asked why they should abvse me, being so myndfull of them, they answered that I durst not but send to them. for one of them besides his dividant, I payed at one tyme ten pounds for his debts: Merideth ys his name. I have written my letters abroade, w^{ch} have procured them noe small reliefe. The disposition of Allmes ys not committed wholye to myne appoyntment. The givers limitt yt, and make the peculiar assignment w^{ch} I must follow: I can blame none so much for defect of Almes then M^r Collington and his adherents. from whome synce the begynnyng of my troublesome office I have not receaved one myte. If you knewe how much goeth from me towards the reliefe of poore preists at there comming in: towards the succouring of prisons in the Cyttye: and towards afflicted Catholiks at libertie, and preists w^{ch} be in greate n[ee]de; you would be asshamed to forge accusations against me in this matter: and condemne yourselves that have made to me noe contribucions towards soe greate necessities. This last weeke passed, the poore preists w^{ch} came in to ioyne in o^r labours had of me ten poundes: A docter in want being preist had of me fourtie shillings: An other much distressed Catholicke of rare parts had of me foure poundes. And this wthin one weeke. I am now to provide twentie pounds for Framingham. This ys my care; and yet yours think I am carelesse in this busy[ness]. But I am carelesse for my selfe. for if any thing be committed to my disposicion, or as I will my selfe, I lett yt goe to remedy necessities abroade, and that maketh me to be bare in apparell, and not to be able to keep a m[an] to helpe my weaknes by age either

wthin, or wthowt doores. God forgive therefore my accusers; and send vs his peace; w^{ch} if you embrace, yt wilbe for yo^r owne good, and my comfort,

• 17 Novemb. [1602 added by another hand]

Vester Seruus Georgius Blakwellus,
Archip^r

25. *From Father Henry Garnet.* 16 Nov. 1602.

47, f. 384.

A Circular letter to his brethren.

My very lovinge ff^r. Whereas it hath pleased his hol: to make a sweete ende of all the controuersies w^{ch} haue so longe molested not vs only, but all other Catholickes by a Breve of his dated the 5 of October 1602 . . . that although the Authentickall cōpye cannot come to o^r most Rd Archprieste handes so soone as were to be wished: yet notw^tstandinge we h[ave] gotten sure informacion of the contents thereof: & haue thought it good or rather necessary to intimate vnto you and by yo^r meanes as conven[ient]ly you may, to all of o^r Society abroade such thinges as concerne the execucion of the same for our partes; both because it becometh vs in true obedience to prevent (yf it be possible) the will of so high a Superi[our], and for that we haue a particuler obligacion to give good example vn[to] others and fynally for to avoide occasion of all complaints: w^{ch} yf they . . . should after so manie others made against vs heretofore, by anie probable occasion geuen on o^r parte, arise: yt would be exceedinge grevous to h[is] hol: and other o^r Superiors And no doubt but accordingly they we . . . proceed towards the Authors wth severe animaduersion.

Ffirst therefore, it behooveth vs (as all other Catho:) to accept of 1. his hol: Breve wth all manner of reuerence and conformity of wills and iudgm^{tes} vnto his most prudent and pious resolucions: Exhortinge all Catholickes as occasion may be offered, to the lyke disposition. And herevnto we fo[r] o^r owne selues haue a most speciall obligacion of gratitude in that he so affectuously sheweth