

## Rare Books, Manuscripts, Maps & Photographs (605)

Wed, 17th Jun 2020, Edinburgh

Viewing Times:

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### Lot 123

Estimate: £3500 - £4500 + Fees

#### Cromwell, Thomas, 1st Earl of Essex Letter signed ("Your assurdy ffreend Thomas Crumwell")

Addressed on address panel "To my very loving and assured Frend [...] doctor Wotton the Kinges ambassador in the parties of Germany", 2pp, folio (31 x 21cm.), with address panel on 2nd sheet

**Provenance:** From Volume XXXI of the Manuscripts in Towneley Hall, Lancashire, which were dispersed by sales beginning in the 1880's. Recorded in the *Fourth Report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission*, Appendix (1874), pp.412-13; [*Calendar of*] *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, of the reign of Henry VIII*, vol. XIV, part 2 (1895), p.137, No. 394.

**Note:** A remarkable diplomatic letter about the furtherance of the fourth of King Henry VIII's six marriages by the man chiefly responsible for it.

"... by this berer yow shall receyve the kinges highness lettres conteyning his graces most gentle and princely affection toward the Duke of Cleves, with his graces divise for the encrease of their amytye which his highness doubteth not but yow woll so discreately handel and setfurthe as the same shall take effect wherein I assure you you shall doo the thing that shalbe muche to his Majestes contentacion and consequently not a Lyttle to your owne commodotie... handel the matier soo that... the Duke... takieth his graces most kynde offer in most thankfull parte and that his suite and desire is that it may please his highnes to procede... with all possible diligence and yet tempering the compassing of this purpose soo as they gather none occasion to thinke that this offre implyeth any other purpose thenne is expressed for that myghte cause them to take the same in lesse thankfull parte then it is woorthie - I have directyed my lettres of congratulacion to my ladie Annes grace whereby I doo exhote her to the nurrishment of the amytye bitweyn those princes to the greate honor bothe of the kinges Majestie her owne, and to the assuraunce of them and of their issew and posteritie... I doubt not but you woll so setfourthe the kinges Majestes presentes with goode and modest words as the same shalbe by your discrecion the more acceptable..."

