

relates thereunto. It is to entreat him to make an impartial valuation of some lands to a rising favourite who was to be the purchaser, and is penn'd in the following words. " I humbly beseech your lordship to give me leave, and pardon too, if I need it, for the answering of those things which you were lately pleas'd to object against me; and that you will charitably also consider both of my demands, and of the reasons which embolden me to make them. Those answers go here, in a paper which is enclos'd, apart; and my letter shall say but thus much, that the gentleman, who is so greatly in favour, hath many fair fortunes before him, and we, nothing to look for but misery; and that he is better able to give us above the worth of the land, than we in condition to abate any part thereof. And therefore we humbly beseech your lordship, that your *compassion* and care of *honour*, may be the judge between his prosperous navigation, and our shipwreck: and that your *charity* for us, and your desire of *satisfaction* for him, may equal the ballance between us. I hope so heartily to find all just favour at your hands, as I will venture, upon this, to assure you, that I will do all my utmost to make my wife and son forget their misery in themselves, and to be ever mindful of their duty towards your lordship; to whom I hope they will be, as I am sure myself have been, and am, a most faithful, humble servant." ^a

BESIDES the *ten thousand five hundred pounds* which it cost Sir *Walter Ralegh* to put himself in equipage for this long-proposed voyage, a much greater sum than would have paid for his liberty of receding from it, or for a formal pardon, had he thought he needed, and had gone about to purchase it; there were many co-adventurers, who, by contributions to the expence thereof, entitled themselves to a share in the returns. But most of these are called by *Ralegh*, a company of voluntiers, who had never seen the sea nor wars; and, except some forty gentlemen, a very dissolute, disorderly, and ungovernable crew, "whom their friends thought it an exceeding good gain to be discharg'd of, at the hazard of some thirty, forty or fifty pounds, knowing they could not have lived a whole year so cheap at home." ^b There were, moreover, several merchants, not only in *England* but foreign parts, who contributed to this *Mine-adventure*; so confident were they that it was no *chimera*, no supposititious or airy treasure that was promised or pursued. One of these merchants, afterwards knighted, and very eminent for his dealings, was named *Peter Vanlore*, who so approved of Sir *Walter Ralegh's* undertaking, that he not only sent a letter to his brother Sir *Adrian Tibbaut* in *Amsterdam*, requesting him to engage another merchant there to communicate something he knew of the riches in *Guiana* to Sir *Walter Ralegh*; but made that request in *Ralegh's* own manner of expression, from a copy which he drew up for him. This draught, as I have it from the said original, is as follows: "Brother *Tibotes*, There is a merchant in *Amsterdam*, that for the love he bears to my honourable friend Sir *Walter Ralegh*, is content to discover somewhat of importance unto him in *Guiana*, to which country Sir *Walter Ralegh* is now preparing to go; but he doth require assurance from Sir *Walter Ralegh*, that he himself may be assur'd to enjoy such part of the commodity discover'd, as he shall agree upon with Sir *Walter Ralegh* by his deputy Mr. *Henry Hovenar*. I do therefore pray you to speak with the party which Mr. *Hovenar* will bring unto you, and to know what assurances he will require, which to pleasure Sir *Walter*, I shall be willing to give; that is to say, to give him assurance that upon Sir *Walter's* return into *England*, the charges being deducted, the discoverer shall receive from Sir *Walter* such part of the said merchandize as Sir *Walter* and he shall agree on; altho' there needs no such assurance to be given, because his majesty doth assure all Sir *Walter's* partners by the *Great Seal of England*, That they shall truly and quietly enjoy all their parts and shares of what goods, merchandize or treasure soever shall be returned; out of which *Great Seal of England*, the discoverer shall have an assignment for so much as belongs unto him, to be deliver'd here in *London*, to whomsoever he shall appoint to receive it." Then in a new line he concludes thus: "To Mr. *Peter Vanlore*. This is the letter which I desire you to write to your brother in *Amsterdam*; and for any assurance you shall give, I will again put you in sureties to save you harmless. *W. Ralegh.*" ^c This letter is dated *July 1.*

^a See a *Collection of Letters made by Sir Toby Matthews*, 8vo. 1660, p. 66.

^b See *Walter Ralegh's Apology*, p. 4.

^c This copy of a letter for Sir *Peter Vanlore* to engage a *Dutch* merchant in Sir *Walter Ralegh's* *Guianian* adventure, from the original draught of Sir *Walter's* own hand, is in the possession of *Brown Willis*, of *Whaddon-Hall* in *Essex*, to whom we are obliged for this communication. And a transcript appears to have been sent ac-

ording to Sir *Walter's* request; for, after his death, his lady having commenced law-suits against the said *Vanlore*, this copy was produced in court, as appears by the following endorsement upon it: "This letter was shewn unto *Matthias Penevart*, at the time of his examination, on the part and behalf of Sir *Peter Vanlore*, knut defendant, against Dame *Elizabeth Ralegh*, widdow, complainant. 12^o *Junii*. 1623. Signed *Martin Bapill*."