

LETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP PARKER AS TO BISHOP
TUNSTALL'S BURIAL.¹

My Lord of Dur[esme] bath one of his executors here,² the other is in the North, wher also is his testament. This executor saith that his mynd was to be homly and playnly buried.³ Consider you wether yt wer not best to prescribe som honest maner of his entyeryng, lest it might ellys be evyl juged that the order of his funeral wer at the cownsayls apoyntment, not knownen abrode that the handeling of yt wer only at his executors liberalytie.

I have sealed up ij small caskates wherin I thinke no grete substance eyther of moneye or of wrytinges. Ther is one roll of boke, which I purposed to delyver to the Quene, which is nothing ellys but King Henryes testament,⁴ and a boke *contra com'unicationem utriusque spec.* and such mater. His bodye, by reason of his soden departure, cannot be long kept. Thus Jesus preserve youe. This xvijth of Novembre.

Your beidman,

M. C.

To the right honorable Mr. Secretarye.

[Indorsed] 18th Novembr. 1559.

¹ Domestic State Papers, temp. Eliz. vii. 29.

² The executors were "Dr. Hyndmer my chancellor of Dureme, Nicholas Thornell, and Sir John Tunstall's sonne, of Houghton." The will was proved 30 Jan. 1559, by Nich. Thornell, Dr. Hindmer being dead. See extracts from the will, 1 Sur. lxvii.

³ He directed his "funeral to be without all pomp and vanity," if in London in St. Paul's, next his old friend Thomas Linacre, physician. He was, however, buried in the chancel of Lambeth church, at the charge, as is generally stated, of Archbishop Parker, the writer of the letter in the text, in whose "free custody" he died.

⁴ Is this the document postponing the Scotch succession to that of the House of Suffolk of which Bishop Tunstall was an executor? Or is an early print of the New Testament alluded to?