

**Date:** 1 February 1565

**REF:** GD112/39/3/17 (SHS ed. No. 30)

**Place:** Carrick Castle (Cowal)

**From:** Archibald Campbell, 5th Earl of Argyll

**To:** Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

**Address:** To our traist cousyng Colein Campbell off Glenwrquhay be yis delyverit

Traist cousyng efter maist hairtlie commendatiounis. We haiff rasavit zour wryitting and wnderstandis ye saymin yat ze are content yat we keip our awyn boundis fra ye ressett of ye rybellis ye Clangregor quhilk God willing salbe done. And gif ony off our freindis necekis ye saymin ze sall se yaim pwnist to ye regour. And fardare gif ze mister ony men ze sall haif yaim so yat we maye be advertiissit yairof in dew tym. Fardare ze sall rasaif ane wryitting to Makranald to ye effect yat he sall mak guid service to ye Quennis Majesty against ye saidis rybellis.<sup>1</sup> And fardare as to ye contenttis off zour bill about ye manuryng of Rannoche and oderris contenttis yairin ze sall wit yat we haif adwysit with certain off our freindis yat is heir with us instantlie. And namelie ye Laird of Achynbrek and hes thocht guid till conteneu ye anser yairof quhill our awyn meittyng. For we haif causit Dougall to be content to pas to Ballyoch be ye heland gait and our self sall be yair on ye xvij daye off yis instant be ye Lauland gait<sup>2</sup> quhilk daye Dougall promissis to keip. And to yis effect we thocht guid to pas wpe yat we mycht dres and end all ye besines yat is neidfull with zour self and zour awyn consent quhilkis salbe referit to zour(sic) for zour weill and honour. And in ye mein tym God willyng ze sall se guid service doune with all delegece againis ye saidis rybellis. And yis God willing we sall nocht fail to keip tryist wnles zour self mak us advertisement yat we neid nocht to pas yair. For in deid we think it maist neidfull to pas yair consideryng it salbe to zour weill. And yairfor advertiiss us in wryit agane gif ze will haif us cummand or nocht.<sup>3</sup> And yis we commit zow to God. Off ye Carrik ye first day of Fabruare 1564.

Zouris,

Archibald Eryll

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<sup>1</sup> The contract between Grey Colin and Ranald MacDonald of Keppoch was made to pursue the MacGregors, 25 April 1563, GD112/1/130; BBT, 206-8; MacGregor, thesis, 320; 340. Subsequently Grey Colin had become cautioner for Ranald's 'good rule' before the Privy Council, 13; 27 November 1564, GD112/23/1/11, RPC, I, 289-90.

<sup>2</sup> A sixteenth-century version of taking the high road and the low road. Dougal would probably have to travel via Glenfyne, Glenfalloch and the Drumalban passes into Glen Lyon or down Glen Dochart on his way to Balloch Castle at the east end of Loch Tay. The earl would come through the Ochils from Castle Campbell and either via Perth or across Strathearn.

<sup>3</sup> The earl was most anxious for a personal meeting with Grey Colin to settle the details of the offensive against the MacGregors and he was prepared to travel to Balloch. Grey Colin seemed to have been exceptionally reluctant to travel outside his own bounds.