

Date: 11 October 1563

REF: GD112/39/2/22 (SHS ed. No. 13)

Place: Ayr

From: Archibald Campbell, 5th Earl of Argyll

To: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

Address: To our traist cousyng ye Lard of Glenwrquhay be yis delyverit

Traist cousyng efter hartlie commendatiounis. We haiff rasavit zour twa letteris fra zou concernand syndrie heidis.¹ As to ye first heid quhair ze say yat I tuik in hand to keip Glenwrquhay quhilk I did never quhill ye xx day of yis instant as ye Queneis Grace ordenance proponittis. Bot ye thynge yatt I promiissit(sic) was to haif send sum number of men to help to keip ye said boundis allsone as I mycht accumin to my cuntray ye quhilk I said yat I wald do of benewolence to zou bot nocht of na command of ye Queneis Grace becaus Hir Grace wald nocht command me mair nor my nychtbouris. Thairfoir allege nocht on me bot yat thynge yat is trewth. And as for the Clangregor quhay are ye Quennis rybellis I sall God willyng do my delegece in ye persuit of yaim as I may for ye awanement of ye Quennis service within ye boundis yat is committit to my charge.² And als I merwell of zou yat desyiris me to gif zow over ye superieoretie of Glenwrquhay for I belief yat my foirbearis gait it nocht so lychtly. And I am werie sorie yat ze suld wryit sik ane propositioun quhilk compellis me to gif yat ansure yat I wald be laith to do. For suirlie be ze assurit yat howlang yat I leif yat I will nocht give zou ye said superieoretie. For I thynk me worthy of ye samin suppois it ware better nor it is for I thynk to keip yat thynge yat my foirbearis haid. And so I will nocht wryitt ony fardar at yis present³ bot committis zou to God. Of Air ye xj day of October 1563.

Zouris,

Archibald Eryll

[PS] As for your tennenttis of Glenwrquhay yat ze wryit to me to send
hame againe ze sall wit yat I will nocht stop nane of yame yat
pleis to gang hame /1563(sic)
Yairfoir send for yame gif
ze pleis.

¹ Only one of Grey Colin's letters, that of 3 October 1563 [12] has survived.

² The earl and Grey Colin had two different interpretations of what had been agreed in the Council concerning the Commission against the MacGregors made on 22 September 1563, RPC, I, 248-50.

³ The earl was horrified by the suggestion that he should sell or hand over the superiority of Glen Orchy to Grey Colin and was so angry that after the firmest possible rejection he ended the letter. Skipnish described the earl as 'sum pairt crabit' in his letter to Grey Colin, 13 October 1563 [14].