

Date: 21 March 1565

REF: GD112/39/3/28 (SHS ed. No. 38)

Place: Edinburgh

From: Patrick, 3rd Lord Ruthven

To: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

Address: To his broder the Lard of Glenvrquhay

Broder efter mayst hartly commendatiounis. I resavit zour wreting with the copy of ye Erle of Argylls wreting and als hes opinnit ye Erle of Argylls wreting yat he sendis with yis berer to zow.¹ Quharin I find yat he wauld have zow restoring ye geyr nocht making suir gyf ye man sall enter and I remembre weyll yat zour commission sayis as ze wret.² Yairfor ze may keip styll ye geyr without danger of the law gyf ye pless. It aperis to me be my Lordis wreting yat he wauld nocht ane querrell to zow suppoys he neyddis nocht. For suppoist he and ze wauld bayth assuir me of all thingis promyst to zow I will nocht credeyt quhill I see it with my eiis consydering samony promesis as hes ben mayd and brokin. And last of all quhen I spak with my Lord of Argyle he gef als gud wordis as evir he gif bot quhat followis yairin God kennis bot I am hard of trutht as Sant Thomas wes.³ As to zour freindis of courte ye(sic) stand to zow as ye wer wount. And ye and I hes resonit oft anewcht anent ye slauchter of Drummond for it wes giffin yair to vnderstand yat ye wer zour servandis yat committyt ye slauchter and come out of zour hous

to ye deyd doing and hes ben furneist and resayt within zour boundis sensine and remainis yair mayst I gef sufficient anser yair to ...⁴ and als to ye Drummondis. My Lord of Argyle is in Styrlyng and quhydder he goys to Argyle I think ze ken better nor I. Bot gyf he and zour freindis of Argyle kepis promise ze will have exsperiance schortly. Bot always I pray zow to gyf gud attendance to zour awin body and pass nocht to ze west end of ye loch sa raklessle as ze do and remanis yair with sa few ane nummer as ze do diveris tymes. Remember ye consell ze gef me oftymes quhen I was vnder feyd and do ze same now zour self.⁵ Ye Secretary passyis in Inghland within thre owlkis.⁶ The Quenis Majeste rydis on Mununday or Tuisday toward Styrlyng quhair sche remainis quhill Paysche be passyt and yairefter rydis to Sanctandros. I beleyf to be at hame on Palm Sunday⁷ and yen we sell meyt and resson on all thingis. Referring

the rest to yat tyme. And Chryst preserf zow. My bedfallow [calis] hyr hartly
commendatiounis to zow and to zour bedfallow and tyll hyr doychter Jean.⁸
Wreting at Edenburghe ye xxj of Merche.

Zowr assurit broder at his powar,
Ruthven

[PS] Zour freindis of courte will assyst zour honest
causs. Resave ye copy of ye wreting yat ze
send me.

¹ It is not clear if this was Argyll's letter of 19 March 1565 to Grey Colin
GD112/39/3/26 - not printed, because it was written in Stirling and accompanied by
another letter to Katherine [37].

² For the details concerning the stolen goods, 16 March 1565 [36].

³ Ruthven indicating his scepticism about the performance of Argyll's fair promises with
reference to the story of Doubting Thomas!

⁴ There is an indecipherable abbreviation in the manuscript which probably refers to a
person, possibly the Laird of Buchanan. The whole sentence is difficult because it is
not clear if 'mayst' should belong with 'remainis yair', in the sense of 'remaining there
most of the time', or with 'I', in the sense of 'I must give sufficient answer'.

⁵ Ilanran (Killin) at the west end of Loch Tay was regarded as more dangerous because it
was not as well fortified as Balloch Castle and was the reason why Finlarig Castle was
rebuilt. Ruthven reminded Grey Colin of the good advice he himself had offered when
Ruthven was at feud.

⁶ Weeks.

⁷ Palm Sunday was 15 April and Pasche (Easter), 22 April.

⁸ Jean, the daughter of Grey Colin and Katherine and god-daughter of Jean Stewart,
Ruthven's wife.