

Date: n.d. Saturday [3 November 1565]¹

REF: GD112/39/12/10 (SHS ed. No. 61)

Place: Grandtully Castle (near Aberfeldy)

From: William Stewart of Grandtully

To: Katherine Ruthven, Lady Glenorchy

Address:

Eftyr hartlie commendatioun. I resavit zour writyng and quhar ze writ yat ye Lardis [m]ynd is yat al thyngis suld ceiss. As to yat I knaw nay mannis mynd ... bayth ye Lardis writyngis said yair wourdis gif my Lord of Atholl stand guid onto hym and swit hym on nay way bot be justice he wil nocht only stay his freindis at yis tyme bot in al tyme cumyng at his wttermaist and yat he takkis nay thocht of Straythherry men my Lord being ye man to hym he suld be. And now bayth yair hedis being satisfeit *and nain profreit* ze cum on wyth ane

vther weray onressonable desyrand nay justice be swtit of ye Lard for ... caus ze hef writyn.² Quhilk wer tyme to desyre and schaw sic caus quhen he wer callit to justice. Bot it apperis weil yat ze onderstand yat ye guid mynd my Lord of Atholl hes born heirinto is ffor feir of my Lord of Ardgylle and ye Lardis freindis. As to yat ze salbe assurit ye best and maist part heiraway regardis my Lord of Ard[gyll] and al yat wil assist hym in sic cass weray litil and ar desyrous [and] thynkis weil he dois bot his awyn wrak and yair weil and [w...] or far mair nor partye to hym at yis present cum gif he w[il]. An[d] quhar ze writ yat ye Lard advertesit me of my Lord of Argyllis ar na... ... writis yat he send for freindis to his awyn support and to do nay h[arme to] nay man quhilk gif yai wald and mycht do it wer yan ye Lardis men deid but fail.³ Bot ze sal onderstand al thais on yis syde of Forth var chargit be opyn proclamatioun and also writyngis to pas fordwartis wyth ye Lwtennend wyth xv dayis leyve. And alsway ane band of men of wyir quharoff tua hundyr remanis al yis wyntir in Perth. And now be labouris of freindis and my Lordis awyn guid mynd for ... and lamentyng ye gret trubbil ye Lard hes gottin in tyme past is stayit and for his weil differrit to ordour of justice to drywe

... tyme and abil nocht be callit. And as I writ to zow⁴ ye streve without ye Lard adverteis me incontenent be writ yat he wil stay ony army or gret conwocatioun at yis present becaus yai com only for his releiff as he hes promisit to do in bayth his writyngis quhilkis I schew my Lord of Atholl.⁵ Ye toyer⁶ is maist abil to cum fordwarttis schortly quhilk wilbe hurtful onto ws nychbouris and ye Lardis ovir great hurt for mony ar weray ewil myndit and desyris bot just occatioun [to] ... Caus ye Lard writ ressonable in ye fair maner as he hes done of yat he hes stayit his freindis and yairefter als schortly as ... lat hym caus sum freindis trawel on sik hedis and desyris ... be at gif ony be. And ye caus I writ ye lital ... ye streive ves yat it wes spokkyn to me yat at ves ... spak quharthrocht nay honist man ves abil to speik for ye ... I ves nocht abil to hef place to speik for hym nor ... As to my spekyng vyth my Lord of Atholl agane I ... nocht quhen ye same wilbe becaus he passis to Atholl schortlie ... Albeit I spak with hym I wald nocht schaw hym nane of zour latt wr[itingis] for I think it nocht weil nor neidful rychtsway. [Forfrit]⁷ ye stre... yat sum men hed cumyn down by ye Lardis awyiss and [wre]tting and albeit yai hed bene weil resistit or mischeiffit ... c[uld] hef excusit me for I doutit nocht albeid yat hed b ... bot ze wald adverteist me gif ze hed knawyn ... ony to ... haist ye Lardis ansur to me wyth al diligence ... wyth yis berar and God conserff zow. Of Gr[antullye] yis Satt[urday].

Zouris awyn at powar,

William Stewart of Grantully

¹ This is the reply which Grey Colin asked Grandtully to send to Katherine in [58]. The next Saturday was 3 November.

² This repeats word for word what Grey Colin had said in [58] but Katherine's lost letter included what Grandtully thought was an unreasonable extra demand that Grey Colin should not have to face any legal proceedings at all.

³ Without fail.

⁴ 2 November and probably a reference to [60].

⁵ In Grandtully's view it was essential that Grey Colin prevented an influx of troops from the 5th earl as they would be viewed as a direct threat to Atholl and his neighbours. As he had warned in [54], Grey Colin should distance himself as far as possible from the 5th earl.

⁶ The other.

⁷ Possibly a variation on ' firday' , late in the day, with ' stre' being the beginning of ' streve' .