Date: 31 March 1564
REF: GD112/39/3/5 (SHS ed. No. 19)
Place: Dunkeld
From: John Stewart, 4th Earl of Atholl
To: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy
Address:

Rychn traist cousing efter hertly commendatiounis. I haif resawit zour wryting proporting yat ye
Clangregor hes done sum skaith to zowe and to zour cousing Jhone Campbell of ye Lawers in Glenloichay,¹ and tuk ye wouthe but tarye² and yat ze ar nocht certane quhat cuntir yai ar in nowe bot yat ze will pass zour self to ye west end of Lochtay. Thairfoir desyring me to causs all ye ferrymen one Taye and Tummell³ yat yai be not feriet over nene of yai watteris quhilk God willing salbe *done within my boundis*. And lykwais sall send word to causs tak attendence in sic
braies of my cuntiraye as ze wryt yat yair sall cum nene of yame yair and gif yai cum yat yai salbe scharplie put at. Forder quhan ze wryt yat ze beleif yat yai salbe sa scharplie put at on ye west hand yat yai salbe constrenit oder to cum on my boundis or zouris. As to yat ze salbe assurit God willing gif yai cum yair yai salbe sua handlit yat yai sall haif als lytill refuge in yir partis as one ye west hand.⁴ Swa refaris ye rest to zour nixt advertissment. And God preserve zow. Of Dunkeld ye last of Merche 1564.

Yours at pouir,
Atholl

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¹ The MacGregors had made a raid upon Grey Colin’s lands and on Campbell of Lawers’ lands in Glen Lochay and Grey Colin had written to Atholl asking him to block up likely escape routes. Atholl was part of the renewed commission against the MacGregors, 18 March 1564, RPC I, 269-70; MacGregor, thesis, 332.
² Wrou(r)the but tarye of wear awa: to slip away quickly and quietly.
³ Blocking the ferries was an important service because it was necessary to cross either the Tay or the Tummel rivers to get out of Breadalbane to the east.
Grey Colin was planning to block the western routes out of Breadalbane so that the MacGregors would be driven east, MacGregor, thesis, 333.