

Date: 5 April 1565

REF: GD112/39/4/2 (SHS ed. No. 39)

Place: Garvie (Glendaruel, Cowal)

From: Archibald Campbell, 5th Earl of Argyll

To: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

Address: To our traist cousyng the Laird off Glenvrquhay delyuer yis

Traist cousyng efter maist hairtlic commendatiounis. We rasavit zour letter and wnderstandes be saymin ye skayth and slavchter and trubill yat is betuix zou and zour wnfreindis quairof we are nocht glaid. Ze sall wnderstand yat we haif haldin zour servant here with us quhill our freindis was convenit in ye Garvie. And efter yair convenyng we consultit for supple to zou aganeis zour vnfreinds. First yairis past wp to zou alradie Alexander Keir and Donald Oige with twentye four gentillmen.¹ And as we are informit yat ye Clangregor hes bein awaitand on yair wp passyng for to persew yaim bot awayis yai haif tane thair adventure. And as we beleif and yai meit with ane rasonabill number of ye rybellis yat yai sall do lyk honest men God villing. And as for mair relief to zou ze sall wit we haif stenttit wpon Lorne, Argyll and Covall xvijj scoir of men.² And of yame saxe scoir monethlie or tventy dayis to remane with zou ilk ane efter odir. And now first we haif ordannit yat ye saxe scoir of Lorne suld pas to zou incontenent God villing and we haif send for MacCoull³ to cum to us with all delegece for ye saymin effect. And yairfoir ye sall wryit ane schairpe letter to all zour avyn tenenttis of Lorne to be {rade with all dele-}⁴ gence to pas with MacCoullis freindis and our tenenttis to {zour boundis and} efter ye men of Lorne ye men of Ergyill salbe at zou and efter yamen ye men of Covall ordourlie everie cumpanie be {thairselfis}. And now efter ye seid beis put in ye grovnd ye Laird of Achynbrek him self hes promist to us to pas with ane number of men {to duell in to} Glenvrquhaye for ane sasone. And as for Airdkyng{las we haif spokin} anevcht to him anenttis yaime and to MacNaichtane {quhay hes bayth promist} to us yat yai sall do yat thyng yat lyis in yair {powareis aganeis yame} yat we maye knaw ye saymin ansueris be yaime. For we fynd yame weill

myndit againis yaime.⁵ And all oderis of ye cuntrie we fynd of
ye saymin mynd quhilkis mair nor ze lippynnit for. And {this we haif}
done als meikill for ye sklenderis saik of nyctbouris as for ony skayth
yat we haif gottin or ze either. And fard{are ye sall witt yat}
James MacConill hes wryittin to us anenttis ye besines betuix {you and him and}
for ye keipyng of ye daye appoynttit in Steirlyng.⁶ And he {desyiris}
yat ye saymin tryist be in Glasgo or Dunbartane be rasone {thair beis}
with him sum of his brether and freindis yat maye nocht weill {pas bye}
ye saidis tovneis. Quhairfoir we thynk best yat {ye appoynt ye daye}
ony tyme about Pace⁷ and advertiiss us ye saymin daye. And ye saymin daye
to be in ane of ye saidis tovnis and ze advertiiss ye saymin to {us siklyk yat}
we maye advertiiss him of ye saymin yat he maye keip it. {For we persaif}
him weill myndit to ye saymin for favour and luif. And yis {we pray}
to haist ye ansuer heirof to us againe for yair causis. {And this}
we commit zou to God. Off ye Garvie ye fyft {daye of}
Appryill 1565.

Zouris,
Archibald Eryll

[PS] Commend us hartlie
to zour bedfallow.
And as for ye first saxe scoir we
thocht to haif send yaime to zou throw
Menteith or ye Lennox⁸ yairfoir advertiis ze
schoirtlie quhat waye ze thynk best to yaime
to pas wpe to zou.

¹ Alastair, the brother of Auchinbreck and Donald, the brother of Duntrune captained a force of 24 'gentlemen'. These men had been sent as part of the Balloch agreement of 20 February, GD112/1/158; MacGregor, thesis, 341.

² For the military arrangements, see Introduction.

³ Dougal MacDougall of Dunollie.

⁴ Readings from GD50/116/178-80.

⁵ Both Ardkinglass and MacNaughton were related to Gregor MacGregor and so had divided loyalties, see Appendix C.

⁶ It is not clear what the business was between Grey Colin and James MacDonald of Dunivaig in which the 5th earl was acting as a mediator.

⁷ Pasche (Easter), 22 April 1565.

⁸ These routes would avoid going too close to territory in which the MacGregors operated.