

Date: 9 July 1565

REF: GD112/39/4/12 (SHS ed. No. 43)

Place: Balloch Castle

From: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

To: Archibald Campbell, 5th Earl of Argyll

Endorsement: Copy of my Lord Argyll's bill delyverit ye ix of Julii 1565

My Lord efter hartlie commendatioun of service. I have sein zour Lordshipis writing¹ makand mentioun yat zour Lordship persaisis yat it is nocht onlie ye Clangregor yat is incontrar me bot ye Erll of Athoill in lyk maner quha is ane better dettour. Indeid my Lord I grant ye samin and prayis God gif it had bein his pleissir gif I behuivit² to have sufferit sa mekle skaytht as I have gottin yat it had bein ye Erll of Athoill yat had bein ye doar yairof rathar nor yaim yat hes doun it. And quhair zour Lordship writis yat zour Lordship wald send me ane thousand men conforme to my first writing or ma gif I pleissit to revenge my displeissir doun onto me. As to yat gif yat ye men had cum to me in ane quyat maner and zour Lordshipis presens to have bein heir in Balloch it had bein ane sufficient cummer and I hopit in God yat ye Erll of Athoill suld have had grettar dyspleissir yan evir he did to zour Lordship or to me. Bot now presentlie my Lord Secretar my Lord Sanctcolmes Ynche and ye Justice Clark cam to Ruthven yis last Setterday at evin at ye Quenis Majesteis command with chargis to zour Lordship to ye Erle Athoill and me vnder ye pains of tressoun yat na convocatioun of ye Quenis legis be maid onto ye tyme yat Hir Majeste be forder adwysit.³ Quha purchesit yir letters zour Lordship man considder efterwart.⁴ My Lord of Sanctcolmes Ynche and ye Justice Clark beis in Balloch yis Mononday⁵ at evin and yair efter passis forward to zour Lordship and my Lord Secretar and my Lord Ruthven passis to ye Erll of Athoill in lik maner. My Lord I am nocht in my awin of yis be ressoun yat my geir is laitlie tain fra me by ordor and I ma nocht tak geir againe nor zour Lordship yat wald assist to me and vyer freindis. Your Lordship ma

persaif yis is ane grett pertialitie. Quhair zour Lordship writis toward ye Clangregor and sayis yat zour Lordship wald yat I lat my wit gang our my will be ressoun of yis troubles wardelt.⁶ And yat zour Lordship belevis yat ye Clangregor wald mak service vpon vyeris and to yat effect desyris me yat I wald byid at ye seycht of zour Lordship and freindis. As to yat zour Lordship knawis yat I was nevir by yat and zour Lordship hes ane writing vpoun ye samin. And gif zour Lordship pleissis at vyer hedis with ye adwyiss of freindis yat zour Lordship thinkis mair for my weill and mak ye samin knawin to me I am content to byid yairat.

Now sen I have submittit my self to zour Lordship and freindis ye dishonour of it will evir stand vpoun zour Lordshipis houss and zour Lordshipis freindis albeit yat I have gottin ye skaytht without yat ane manifest mendis be maid to me. In gud faytht war nocht ye ye(sic) confidence yat I have onlie of zour Lordship under God for all ye geir yat evir I had or hes I wald nocht submit me to freindis in yir causes war nocht yat I am out of dout yat zour Lordship will have ?evir to my honour as to zour Lordshipis awin.

And quhair zour Lordship writis certain heides quharthrow zour Lordship thinkis yat ye Clangregor suld be acceptit be zour Lordship and me for certaine caussis presently in ye realime.⁷

And quhair zour Lordship writis for ye first artikle yat MacGregor and sa mony as wsis his consall of his kin and dependaris on and sa mony as he will put in bill to offer him and yaim in zour Lordshipis will and myin yair lyvis being saif hawand yair heritaigis and rowmis. As to yat my ansuer is yat I wald wit quhow mony is *and quhat yai ar* yat he wald gif in bill to yat effect yat I mecht be skaythtless of yaim in tymes cuming.

Secondlie quhair zour Lordship writis yat I wald be contentit to byid at ye seycht of zour Lordship and freindis toward MacGregoris interest and mariage. As to yat zour Lordship knawis yat I agreit *for his interes and mariage* be ane obligatioun maid be zour Lordshipis adwyiss and Colyne Campbell

of Ardkinglass and John MacAlestar MacNachtain for ye sowm of sex
hundrethe merkis⁸ lyk as ye obligatioun beiris ye samin quhair of I
will stand content. And albeit
in ye said obligatioun yat it is specifeit yat ye
tua MacGillechelleis was promesit to me I well ex-
onar⁹ MacGregor of yat point of ye obligatioun be ressoun yat yai
ar ye Erll of Athoillis servandis.¹⁰ And as to MacGregoris kynd-
lie rowmis I can nocht mak zour Lordship ansuer of yat be ressoun yat
ye Clangregor allegis yat mekle of ye rowmis yat I have suld
be yairis bot quhowsoun yat zour Lordship advertesis me in MacGregoris name
of ye rowmis yai desyir I sall send zour Lordship ansuer. Quair zour
Lordship biddis me be ane gud maistir to yaim yair is na thing yat I will
promess to yaim befor zour Lordship and freindis bot ye thing I sall
keip. And quhair zour Lordship desyris me to send ane assurance
as to yat I send yaim nevir ane nochtwithstanding all ye assurance
yat zour Lordship promesit yaim in my name I kepit ye samin and gif
yai haive brokin ony I refer yat to zour Lordshipis awin jugement. And
for yis present tyme sa lange as zour Lordship thinkis I am
contentit to assuir yaim and sal nevir be myndit to
brek zour Lordshipis assurance God willing. For had ye Clangregor
bein als faythtfull to zour Lordship in ye keiping of yair assurance
as I have bein I had nocht gottin sic skaytht of men and geir
as I have gottin. Bot I will refer yat to zour Lordshipis awin
wesdom as I have done all ye rest and ye skaytht I have
gottin. And gif zour Lordship gevis yaim ane assurance in my name I pray zour
*Lordship haist word to me of ye dait of ye assurance and quhow lange it induris
quhidder Duncan MacGregor VicRoyrair and his complecis yat ar of ye Erll of
Athoillis assistance be assurit be zour Lordship in my name or nocht to ye effect I ma
keip my promessis to zour Lordship.*
Gif yat my Lord of Sanctcolme and ye Justice Clark
cumis fordward to zour Lordship with ye Quenis charges I sall adverteiss zour Lordship
as I ma with deligence.

¹ 1 July 1565 [41].

² 'Behovit' or was necessary.

³ William Maitland of Lethington, James Stewart, Commendator of Inchcolm, and Sir John Bellenden who brought the royal order to Ruthven Castle [Perth], TA XI, 375.

⁴ William Murray of Tullibardine was later accused of purchasing letters against Grey Colin, 31 October 1565 [55].

⁵ Monday 9 July.

⁶ Possibly 'ware' or 'ward': to waste one's time.

⁷ These were replies to the points contained in the separate Memo attached to [41], MacGregor, thesis, 350-1.

⁸ Agreement made on 24 November 1562, GD112/1/122-3; 125; MacGregor, thesis, 309-310.

⁹ Free from an obligation.

¹⁰ For the symbolic importance of the surrender of the two MacGille Cheallaichs, see MacGregor, thesis, 306-7; 350-1.