

Date: c. 25 November 1564¹

REF: GD112/39/2/25 (SHS ed. No. 25)

Place:

From: Gregor McGregor of Glenstrae

To: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

Address: To ane worschipfull and my traist maister and eym Colin Campbell of
Glenwrquhay

Ryght wurshipfull Sir maister and eyne eftir all hertle commendatiounis of my service.

All thoyth

ze thynk it nocht to all to zour plesour nochtwithstanding gif zour Maisterschip wald be
so gra-

tius as to lat me and my kennismen brwik² and possiss our awin kynd
natife rummiss for dewite and service as we aucht in zour service. I my kennismen
freyndis and servandis sa mony as ma salbe obedient and serviabile to zour Maister-
ship in tymes cummyng aganis all ye Quenes Grace and my Lord Erle of Ergile
exceptit and sall eftir my powar recompenss of my service and geir ye skayth
yat is done my heredage and ye lif of my kennismen beand exceptit. ³ Ze
sall onderstand yat I haif na mair to offer and gif zow bot my service togidder
with my kenn and frendis sa mony as ma lat and till servef zow eftir powar in
recompenss. Ze ar ye maister yat is maist necessar for me and my freynds
onder God. And I and my kennismen ar ye maist necessar servandis for zow onder
God.⁴ And all thoyth yat I and my frendis be at deferance with zour Mastership instantly,
I and ya and gif God sendis me ofbrying⁵ will servief zour Mastershipis ofbrying
in tym cumming. Ze sall wit I am cumin ewiss⁶ zour boundis and I mycht till haif
donn skayth quhilk I defarrit byding on zour gud mynd. I left Scotland at
ye command of my Lord Erle of Ergile beleifing of ye setting of zour gud
mynd toarthis me.⁷ And throyth zour dredart⁸ and all thoycht ze draw on zour wyeris
ze ar nocht abill to get mair fectuiss⁹ servandis to zour plessour nor we ar.
Pleiss zow to send me in wrett zour mynd quhilk I pray God to be gud. Be zouris
with powar and service,

Gregor MacGregor of Glenstra

¹ Written after the MacGregors' return to Breadalbane from Ireland in October 1564. It probably refers to the attempt at reconciliation which the 5th earl mentioned to Grey Colin 25 November 1564, GD112/39/3/11 - not printed, and is linked to Gregor's letter to Katherine bef. 25 November 1564 [24]. In John MacGregor's collection the above letter is placed after 27 November 1564, GD50/187/1; MacGregor, thesis, 339 at n. 183.

² Have or enjoy the use of.

³ For a discussion of MacGregor's offer of service and its conditions, see MacGregor, thesis, 282; 339.

⁴ This remarkable statement that Glenorchy was the master whom the MacGregors most needed and the MacGregors the servants whom Glenorchy most needed summed up the the great irony of the feud, see MacGregor, thesis, 397.

⁵ Offspring or children.

⁶ Close to.

⁷ Referring to the MacGregors' trip to Ireland to fight as redshanks for Sorley Boy MacDonald, 6 June; 11 September 1564, [20; 22]; MacGregor, thesis, 334.

⁸ Fear or dread.

⁹ Courageous fighters as servants.