

Date: n.d. [c. January 1566]¹

REF: GD112/39/3/12 (SHS ed. No. 78)

Place: Lochaber

From: Donald Dubh Cameron of Lochiel

To: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

Address: To ane rycht honorabill man and my speciale frend Collyne Campbell off
Glenorquhay

Rycht honorable Sir I recommend me hartlie to zou. Forsamekele as I am informit yat ze art suir displeit at me marweling heirof becauis I knaw nocht in quhat punctis I have offendit zow in ony promeis at ewir I promest. Yairfoir I wald zouw advertesit me in wret ye cauis of zour displesser yat I ma amend ye samin to my wtermest power. And gif zour Mastership will nocht wret ye cauis ze sall adverteis gif ze will have me passand quhair ewir ze treist me and I salbe reddy heirto as ze charge. I have advertest freindis yat yairwes ane band betuix zou and me of guid nychtborsschepe² quhairthrow gif ze had ocht ado yat I suld be reddy with all my mycht tow do zow guid service as I sall ewir do salang as ze vill accept ye samin, ze supportand me in lik maner. The rest of my mynd wer langsum to wrett bot as ze adverteis me with ye berar sall do in yat effaris to quhome ze pleis gif credens in lesummes³ for I have scheawin him part of my mynd. Refferring ye rest to zour answer and Jesu be zour Mastershipis keiper. Of Lochaber be zours at power,

Donald Dow capitane of ye Clanhamrewm

¹ Donald Cameron of Lochiel was recognised as heir, 6 March 1564, RMS, IV, 1512, and was murdered in 1569, RSS, VI, 1067. The possibility of a Cameron raid in Rannoch was mentioned by MacDonald of Keppoch [52], and this might have been the cause of Grey Colin's displeasure mentioned in the letter. Lochiel was in Edinburgh in January or early February 1566 with other West Highland chiefs possibly trying to benefit from the disgrace of Argyll and Grey Colin, which might also have provoked Grey Colin's anger, [79].

² The bond of friendship mentioned here is not known, though in 1591 and 1596 Alan Cameron of Lochiel made bonds of friendship with Black Duncan, the latter

specifically mentioning the MacGregors, so there might have been an earlier version, BBT, 247-8; 252-3.

³ Probably in the sense of these false tales or lies, for which the bearer will furnish an explanation.