

Date: 1 August [1570]¹

REF: GD112/39/9/1 (SHS ed. No. 125)

Place: Grandtully Castle (near Aberfeldy)

From: William Stewart of Grandtully

To: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

Address: To ye honorabill Lard off Glenwrquhay

Sir ze sal wit I wes departit of Dunkeld fra my Lord of Atholl affoir Thomme Mwry² com to hym wyth zour wrytyng. Now I resavit zour wrytyng to my slef quhilk I thynk weray guid. And hes disclosit my Lordis writing drect onto zow quhilk I thynk hard nochtwythstandyng at zour awyn metyngis I dowt nocht bot ye mater may be better handlit. As towart ye burdenyng of parteis wyth yat mischance yair can nay man excwyss ye mischandness³ of my Lord of Athollis men nocht usand yame sleffis lyik men of wyir nor as ony sic men suld hef doyne. And on ye uyer part it is thocht als strange yat zour men in fayr day lycht strikkand yame wyth swerdis and knywyss suld nocht hef knawyn yame albeit yai ver slepand. Now ye nixt best man be tayne. Yairfor I thynk best ye writ agayne to my Lord of Atholl and desyre to wit quhat tyme his Lordship wilbe in Dunkeld yat ye may cum yair and speik hym. Becauss ze heir yairis nay boytis on Tymmeill yat men may pass weil to Blair and siclyk.⁴ Yat ze vald hef bene at hym schonar wer nocht ze heir ye Clangregor ar in Straythherry veray [..soun] to zow as in deid yai ar. Yairfor attend yairto as ze thynk guid and get sic intelligence as ze may yairoff and quhair ever ze trawell attend to zour slef as ze vilbe serwit. I hef writyn to zow of befoir al sic as I onderstoyd for ye maist part and siclyk caussit Allexander my broyer speik ye Lard of Glemis and Allester MacGregor of hymself quhen I departit to ze Lawland as I thocht guid.⁵ I reffer al uyer now to zour nixt advertisement and God conserf yow. From Grantullye yis Tyisday ye fyrst of August be youris,

W S

[PS] Zit hes thocht presently it suld be bettyr ze spak my Lord of Attholl in Blair becaus ye Secretar⁶ wilbe yair to reson ye mater. And gif Tymmeill be [great] ze man pass be Porttyn Crayg⁷ quhair yairis ane vray guid boit and fra thyr furth yairis nay uyer vattytr. And gif ye armeis cumis ford-

warttis I suppoine swyrly ye Secretar salbe in Dunkeld wytin fif or sex dayis.
My Lord of Atholl beis ye morn in Coupar and metis syndry lordis yair and
I can nocht assur zow quhowschone he passes to Blair bot I beleiff on Thurisday
or Fryday at ye farest.⁸ I beleiff trewly he salbe on Thurisday at ewyn in
Blair. Writ to ye Secretar to confer wyth my Lord in ye mater.

¹ Continuation of news given in [123] concerning the ‘mischance’ and enclosing Atholl’s letter, 31 July 1570 [124].

² Thomas Murray, it is not known whether he was in the service of Atholl or Grey Colin.

³ Worthlessness or ill-fated.

⁴ If there were no ferry boats available it was impossible to get across the River Tummel, probably at Logierait/Ballinluig, in order to reach Blair Atholl.

⁵ Alexander Stewart, Grandtully’s brother in discussion with Lord Glamis and Alastair MacGregor.

⁶ Maitland of Lethington.

⁷ Port-na-Craig at Pitlochry.

⁸ Atholl was in Coupar Angus on Tuesday, 1 August and was expected back on 3 or 4 August.