

**Date:** 1 October [1570]<sup>1</sup>

**REF:** GD112/39/11/8 (SHS ed. No. 168)

**Place:** Perth

**From:** William, 4th Lord Ruthven

**To:** Katherine Ruthven, Lady Glenorchy

**Address:** To hes syster the Lady Glenvrquhay

Sister efter maist hertlye commendatiounis. I thocht meit to giff zow advertisment yat tua of ye Quein of Inglandes Secreit Counsell is send down to heir our Quein to witt Secreter Sesill and Sir Walter Malmé<sup>2</sup> and ye Quein of Ingland hes desyrit my Lord Regent to send sum perfyt man weill instructit in ze common caus to ressoun vpone ye Queinis deprevatioun and be hir wretting send to ye Regent schow apperis to allow alsweill of ye governement in ze persone of ye King Majestie as ewer she did ... [of] anye tym. The Abot of Dunfermling departis toward Ingland<sup>3</sup> ... quhill his haimcuming yir can na certentie be lukit for of ze grettest matteris in contrawersie. Giff ye Laird think it to his [commoditie] I wald he suld addres him to cum over and spek ye [Regent] ... sen he promissit it of befor now in ye tym of Parlament ... rather yat ye Erle Athol is nocht lyk to keip tryst. At ye lest I wald ... to wret sum fair excuss to my Lord Regentis selff gif he may in cumm becaus it wilbe tain in werrey ewell p[art] in respect he promisit of before to cum giff he stay now bot ye ... refer to his awin wysdome. I purpos to ryd on Sondag<sup>4</sup> yerfoir gif ye Laird will pas owr advertis me ane of yir tua dayis and I sall bear him cumpanye. I thocht it wes nocht neidfull to writ to him becaus I hed nocht na wyer purpos nor heiring hes contenit. Becaus my gud broder my Lord Methwen<sup>5</sup> ... for ye restis of Balquhydder of ye cappas<sup>6</sup> byga... hes ado presently with sylver will desyr zow eff[ectuously] to ansuer] ye samyn quhill bye he haif na occasioun to ... but yat his wyffis freindis dealis freindlye with him for ... ye Laird and he wer hard for yat matter. Or yat my Lord Atholl suld be spekin to yerin of new I hed rather pay ze

halff of ye soum my selff. And sa [refferrand]  
ye rest to zour advertisment. Comittis zou [to ye protec-]  
tioun of ye eternall. At Perth ye [first] day  
of October latt.

Zouris assurit brother,  
Ruthven

[PS] I pray zow be zis present to mak my  
hertly commendatiouns to ye Laird.

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<sup>1</sup> See [167].

<sup>2</sup> Sir William Cecil, Queen Elizabeth's Secretary, and Sir Walter Mildmay. Their commission was given in September 1570, CSPSc, III, 366.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Pitcairn, Commendator Abbot of Dunfermline, was negotiating with Thomas Randolph, the English ambassador, at the start of October but was not sent to England until 16 October, CSPSc, III, 369; 377; 397-8.

<sup>4</sup> The following Sunday, 8 October, an arrangement confirmed in [174].

<sup>5</sup> Henry Stewart, 2nd Lord Methven, Ruthven's brother-in-law. The Balquhidder lands were in the hands of Lady Methven, Methven's mother and Ruthven's step-mother. There had been problems with the rents in 1567-8, see discharge, 15 March 1569, GD112/1/175.

<sup>6</sup> Possibly 'capes' or grain with part of the husk still on.