

Date: 10 [July 1570]¹

REF: GD112/39/7/1 (SHS ed. No. 113)

Place: Perth

From: Patrick Murray of Tibbermuir

To: Katherine Ruthven, Lady Glenorchy

Address: To ye rycht honorabill and hes special ant my Lady Glenurquhay

Maistres efter maist hertly commendaciouns of service. Yis salbe to certefie zour

Ladyship [yat]

I rasavit zour wreiting direct fra zour Ladyship at midsomer with William Ruthven my
cousing

to rasave fra zour Ladyship be hym ane tarsell of goshalk² quhilk I did quhairof I thank
zour Ladyship

maist hertfullie. Bot ye berar heid brokyn hes bac quarthrouch he culd do me na
plesour. Bot I am informit yat your Ladyship heis ane goshalk albeit it be halkyn baid³
gyf it pleses zour Ladyship to bestow hir on me sic as ze do to uyer of zour Ladyshipis
freindis

I salbe als willing to recompane as I may with my gude mynd as plessis
zou to command me. For I knaw and is informit of zour Ladyship hes meikle to do
with gude fallowis and gude bowmen bot quenewer it ples zou to command me ...ane
bow or may to a gude fallow yat will schaw for a ladies saik and in special yaim
yat ar ennemeis bayth to God and man. I sall as plessis zour Ladyship to advertess me
send

zour Ladyship sic as I hawe. And nocht only to send zou ony armour yat I hawe bot also
at zour Ladyshipis command to gyf my body with it sua ye actoun be nocht ag[ans] God
nor his

glore ye commonewelth of yis pure cuntrey. Bot allace I fea[r ye have]
schakyn handis with Egypt and I never luikit for zour punyschment [vtorly] quhill now.
And yat becaus I se zou enterit in leig and covenant with ye Babilonians in ather
of zour handis.⁴ Bot becaus ze ar ane waik veschell and ane woman God strenthe[n]
zow in zour afflicciounis as he did to trew Juda. Bot to impesche zour Ladyship with
saidis

vreit I will nocht bot I will never be resolut of ze Lard zour Ladyshipis husband in my
conscience als I heir of zour defecciounis frome God and hym yat restis with God⁵ un-

to ye tyme I speik with zow face to face quhilk salbe als plesis zour Ladyship to command me.

Na maruellin yir dayis thot ladeis be onconstant to God and ye varld becaus I se it is na new thing for I fand lordis and all [lesser] subiectis to ye samyn without ye speciale assistance of ye spirit of God. ... Ze man tak my hamelie and scincir wreiting in ye best part becaus ye greif of my herte is sua dolouris to heir of zour gryt defeccioun frome God. God grant it may be uyeruayis. As for newis zowr Ladyship desyrit me in zour last letter wryt me nocht yat send zow nane. For ye berar come [in to me to onsave ansuer] and yat becaus he saw ye halkis bac brokyn [quhilk zour Ladyship sentten bele-] vand I suld have bene crabit yairat quhilk I vess. [And] I vyst [zour Ladyship] heid ane uyer in zour handis to send me quhen zour Ladyship plesis. [As for] newis now yairis nane heir bot ye Kyngis counsall convenis in Edinburg [ye xij of yis instant] to choyss a regent to Hes Maieste quhilk I belewe salbe His Graceis gudscher my Lord of Lennox.⁶ As uyer newis occurris in yer partis I sall adverteis zour Ladyship with ye nixt yat cumis betuixis. Bot zour faccioun now laikis for [France] and as for Ingland God grant with hes hevynly will and plessour we quyl efter yat vay. Reffarris ye rest to zour Ladyship and adverteisement. And [ye spreit] of ye Lord Jesus rest with zour Ladyship for ever. Of Perth ye x of yis instant.

Be zour Ladyship awn cousing at command,
Ptryk Mwray

[PS] Sen ye dait of yis wreiting I am adverteising yat ye pre[sent]
Kyng of France hess [slenkyn] ane feild and ye protestantis
victore blessit be ye Lord our God [of] ... and ...
slauchter on ye Kyngis syde.

¹ Tibbermuir refers to receiving a letter from Katherine at Midsummer, 21 June, and to the choosing of Regent Lennox in July 1570.

² A tercel or male goshawk.

³ A bold or fierce female hawk.

⁴ These biblical references to Egypt and Babylon were his descriptions of Katherine's and Grey Colin's links with the Queen's Party in the Civil War, see Introduction.

⁵ A reference to Regent Moray.

⁶ Matthew Stewart, 4th earl of Lennox, the King's grandfather.