

**Date:** 10 July 1570

**REF:** GD112/39/8/6 (SHS ed. No. 114)

**Place:** Lochaber

**From:** Ranald MacDonald of Keppoch

**To:** John Stewart, 4th Earl of Atholl

**Address:** To my Lord and meister ye Erll of Atholl

Jesus.<sup>1</sup>

My Lord and Maister I commend my service hartlie to zow. Zour Lordshipis ser-  
wand Neill hest schavyn me zour Lordshipis mynd anentis ye Clangregor  
and also yat zour Lordship west nocht content yat I send nocht men to zow.<sup>2</sup> As to yat  
my

Lord I am in redinese beith my self and my men quhon evir zour Lordship  
plasis to dissayr me. I haiff ne gydis yat keness ye cuntrais<sup>3</sup> yat yai uiss  
instantle nocht ye less zour Lordship salbe assouerit gif I gett one way to  
cum be yaim I sall [do] dilligence. And now instantle my Lord I and my  
men is redde giff zour Lordship will desayr me to zour self. Bot I heir yat  
the Campbellis and ye Clancameron is ebill to pass furth instantle.

Quhairfor my Lord I wald yat yai heid yair awyn tym and zour  
Lordshipis men and I our awin tym abovith. And so I refary yis to zour Lordshipis plesour  
for I heiff ne will yat we and ye Lord Argyllis men or ye Clancameron  
suld meith wder.<sup>4</sup> Refaring ye rest to zour advertisiment and God  
kipe zowr Lordship. At ye Keppoch ye x day off Jule 1570.

Be zour Lordshipis servand at puar,  
Ranald MacRenill off Keppoch<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This single word invocation is placed centrally above the rest of the letter.

<sup>2</sup> See 17 June 1570 [105].

<sup>3</sup> There was a need for guides even over relatively short distances.

<sup>4</sup> The hazard of three feuding clans, the Campbells, the Camerons and the MacDonalds  
of Keppoch, meeting at the same muster!

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<sup>5</sup> The signature is in the same hand as the letter, so Keppoch probably could not sign his name.