

Date: 10 June 1570

REF: GD112/39/7/11 (SHS ed. No. 99)

Place: Blair Atholl

From: William Maitland of Lething ton

To: Archibald Campbell, 5th Earl of Argyll

Address:

My Lord eftir my maist hairtlie commendatiounis. I dowl nocht not bot zour Lordship remembiris of all the commoning yat wes tuicheing the Clangregor alsweil at the begynning at Dalkeith as sensyne quhen zour Lordship and my Lord of Atholl fynallie appointit.¹ And yat it wes plainlie spokin yat in cais the Clangregor maid ony break against the Laird of Glenurquhart yat zour Lordship nocht only suld expell yaim furth of zour cuntrey bot also be enemy to yame. Now I haf hard yat MacGregoris brother accompaneit with ane gritt nwmir of men hes lyin in waite neir the place of Glenuwrquhy for the Lard of Glenlyounnis slawchtir and myst him verray narowlie. Quhilk being sua gritt ane offence agains zour Lordshipis self I am surlie persuadit yat zour Lordship will nocht suffir it to pas withoute grevous pvnishment. And it wer bot for zour Lordshipis awin honour yat the warld may se and tak example be the handilling of yame quhat it is to mell with the bluid of zour Lordshipis hows. For zour Lordship knawis the Lard of Glenlyoun is of zour Lordshipis surname cumit of zour Lordshipis hous and sik ane as na nobill man wald be content being his kynnisman to suffir to be a pray to lymnaris.² The matir alsua tuicheis zour Lordship the mair neir becaus it is brutit yat the cumpany yat lay for the Lard of Glenlyoun war supportit baith with wictuellis and men be sum of zour Lordshipis awin cuntrey quhilk I dowl nocht bot your Lordship will deligentlie inquire and caus be tryit. And suirlye it is verrey apperand yat lying sua neir the Lard of Glenuourquhyis hous yair interpryis wes also for his awin lyff. Quhilk is sik ane injury to zour Lordshipis as I wait ze will na wyis beir with. ... quhatt inlaik it were to ony noble men in yis ile to lose sik ane kynnisman as the Lard of Glenuourquhy is and specialie by the means of a pak of lymnaris. For in guid faith ze aucht of reason to mak gritt acompt of him for mony respectis for I knaw perfytlie quhat his affectioun is and

hes bene towardis the weill of zour Lordshipis hous. I writt to zour Lordship vpon certane knowlege and lang apprerance towekkit be me upon [mony] conferences hes at divers tymes past betuix him and me tuicheing zour Lordship and in guid faith I nevir persavit bot he hed alss grit ... to the weill of zour Lordshipis hous as of his awin. And I am weill assurit besydis zour awin particular causes and all the common causes quhilk I hes in hand for the common weill zour Lordship may lede him als far as ze pleis for I undirstand samekle of his mynd. Zour Lordship knawis his hairt and couraige and how laith he wilbe to sit with sua gret ane injury at yai menis handis. My Lord of Athole be ressoun of his promeis mon tak plain pairt with him. And zit zour Lordshipis honour ... als miekle of zour Lordshipis concurrence in yis caass as of yai baith. I pray zour [Lordship]

lat it nocht pas ovir slythlie³ but vse yame with sik regour yat uyeris m[ay] stand aw to mell with the lyffis of zour Lordshipis kyn. And yat it may be ane example to sik men nocht to abuse heireftir the liberty yai haif had to repair in zour Lordshipis boundis and furth of the samyn to cum and tak s[ik] ane interpryss in hand. Albeit I wysche mair gude to the Lard of Glenwrquhy nor yame zit his particular movis me within yis caiss to writt sua affectwnatlie to zour Lordship at yis present. But rather becaus I am cumit of zour Lordshipis hous⁴ and hes gude caus to love zour self I am compellit of dewty to put zour Lordship in remembrance for zour honour for th[e] affectioun I beare to sae the samyn adwantit.⁵ For yis caiss tuicheis zour Lordship nerare nor perchance every man will tell zow. I loke for [the] ansuer of the last lettir I writt to my Lord Duke⁶ and zour Lordship [yat] yaireftir I may writt resolatlie to the Erle Sussix. In th[e] [meintyme] gif zour Lordship will command me ony vyer service I am reddy [to obey]. And sua I committ zour Lordship to the protectioun of God. From Blair in Athole, the tent day of Junii 1570.

Zour Lordshipis allwyis to command,
William Maitland

¹ The Dalkeith agreement was probably made on 26 February 1570, GD112/1/181a; see [95].

² Villans.

³ Slightly.

⁴ It is not clear how Maitland was related to Argyll.

⁵ Advanced.

⁶ James Hamilton, Duke of Châtelherault. Maitland's reply to Sussex, 14 June 1570, CSPSc, III, 221-2.