

**Date:** n.d. [10-15 September 1570]<sup>1</sup>

**REF:** GD112/39/12/18 (SHS ed. No. 151)

**Place:**

**From:** William Stewart of Grandtully (draft)<sup>2</sup>

**To:** Katherine Ruthven, Lady Glenorchy

**Address:**

The Jwvice Clark is drectitt to ye Erll Sussix with ansar to ye abstinence is desyrit of ws quhilk in ane maner is a refuse of his desyris. Ye Regant is detarmynyt to hald ye Parliament cum qwat may and to parsew ya dessobadeant subjectis be ye lawis ye ralem. Ye conforince haldys fordard betuix ye twa Quenes<sup>3</sup> quhat cumis of yat I am onsartan bot ye Quen of Ingland has writtan dessiring yat ye Lordyis profassouris of ye Kingis atorytie suld entar in na jelsie with hir for show sall se to ye Kingis furce. And ye [resshow]<sup>4</sup> writtis show was sa ernistly prassit be ye ambassaturis of France and Spaine yat hir honor scho culd not rafwse to her Qwan. How all ye matteris swcceedyis we wyll knawe schorly and yarfor I thenk mait with owt ye Lardis bassines reqwir ye grattar hast he stay quhill he se how all thangis prosedis for yai all zet in susspak.<sup>5</sup> Ye Justes Clark wyll be raturnyt with in v or vj dayis and yan mane wyll have suer knowladg quhat cwris<sup>6</sup> ye Qwan of Ingland takis efter quhais cwming I sall mak him adwartesment that he may do ya likliest for his ayn well.

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<sup>1</sup> Sir John Bellenden of Auchnoule, the Justice Clerk, was sent to the earl of Sussex on 10 September 1570, was with Sussex on 15 September and back in Edinburgh on the 19th, to be sent again on 22 September, *CSPSc*, III, 341-2; 345; 353-4; 355.

<sup>2</sup> This is a very rough and incomplete draft. Although it does not have the characteristic 'slef' of Grandtully, the writing does have a number of similarities with his hand. He refers in the letter to 'ye Lardis bassines' so is probably writing to Katherine.

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<sup>3</sup> Although Mary, Queen of Scots, and Queen Elizabeth never met, this period saw serious negotiations in England concerning Mary's return and the settlement of the Civil War in Scotland.

<sup>4</sup> It is not clear what this word could be, but the sense indicates the informant who had written the news from England.

<sup>5</sup> Suspicion.

<sup>6</sup> Probably 'course'.