

**Date:** n.d. Monday [14 August 1570]<sup>1</sup>

**REF:** GD112/39/12/9 (SHS ed. No. 137)

**Place:**

**From:** William Stewart of Grandtully

**To:** Katherine Ruthven, Lady Glenorchy

**Address:**

Pleis zow resaiff ye Secretaris ansur to me togidder wyth ane writyng fra hym to ye Lard  
and ane vyer  
to zour slef. My boy in his hame cumyng met my Lord of Atholl passand to Blair quhay  
gef hym  
nay ansur bot bald my slef cum to hym. As to yis commissioun ye Secretar writis of yair  
nedis  
nay thyng bot writ to ye Secretar and siklyk to me and desyre ws to propoyne ye mariag  
betuix zour son Duncan and Margret his dochtyr quhilk hes bene spokkyn of yis lang  
tyme and now  
ye barnis ar cumyn to perfectioun quhar zowtheid stayd it befoir.<sup>2</sup> As for thothir ze may  
say yat  
Tulleberdynnis son<sup>3</sup> gat fyf and fourtye hundyt merk and hald zow at four thowsand  
[merk]  
and for coniunct fe ze sal gif accordyng to ye custowme of Scotland as is vsit ama[ng  
no]-  
bil men. As for cyrcumstans ye Secretar can wiss bettyr nor we can and I sal fol[low] his  
tred<sup>4</sup> in yis mater to zour welis be weray swyr [is.. may] yis is for my opyniown schortly  
consavit. Quhar he biddis me pas againe to ye Lard and zow yat nedis nocht for ze Lard  
[declar]-  
rit me zour myndis al reddy and I hef schawyn my opyniown trewly and wprychtly  
as I mai ansur to God at ye Latter Jugment quhen we vil of lital thoct of y[is varld]  
nor ye vaniteis yairof.<sup>5</sup> Eik<sup>6</sup> or payr ony uyer thyng yat zour slef thyn[kis guid]. Ze may  
nocht(sic) ze naratywe of zour writing to ye Secretar and me yat it is nocht ... to ws yat  
yair hes beine comonyng of alia betuix my Lord of Atholl and ... past  
and yat ze culd entyr nor vald nocht in comonyng vyth ony uyer quhill ye ... effetis or  
ver dischargit and now we se ye barnis cumyn to perfectioun and dangerous  
ye delay of zour sonis mariage is to zow and zour barnis yairfor desyre ws to speik

ye same now to my Lord of Atholl. Ze can do yis mekil better nor I can bid zow.

As to ye men ver sene about Garth it is rehersit to me yat Ewyn MacG[regor] Alaster

Pud-

derycht and Patrik Or wer yair and yat yai hef spokyn sum Atholl [men and desyrit]

yame pass in message to my Lord of Atholl.<sup>7</sup> Yis aperis weil [and gif it] be

trew I beleiff at ye leist to heir ye trewth yairof schortly. [And ye manier the]

castell of Brechyn is wyn and sum sais syndry of ye ca[ptainis and soldartis]

justefeit. Ye Erll of Huntlye left Abirdene and past [to Strathbogy zit I belif]

my Lord Regent returnis bak and beis yis nycht [in Perth. It is said to me]

ye Lord Lyndesay is cumyn to Murthlie and hes send to desyre to speik my Lord of

Atholl quhat cumis yairof I can nocht tell. It apris now yat Ardgylle sall cum eist throch

and meit Huntlye in Dunkeld conforme to ye fyrst tryist. Ye Lard of Glennis and

Allester MacGregor past to ye Munth ye same day Ewyn MacGregour ves yair. I vait

nocht quhidder

yai be past to Lochabir or nocht. Yai vald revenge I suppoyne gyf yai mycht on zour

pwir

men ye deid yat yair awyn slewthfulnes hes doine. Bot is I schew ye Lard and zow I gat

xij dayis in presence of ye Secretar and Weme and my Lord of Atholl send to yame in lyk

maner ane strait charge for ye said xij dayis.<sup>8</sup> I writ to ye Secretar to get fyf or

sex wlkis(sic) as ze may persaiiff be his writ to me. I dowl nocht my Lord of Athollis

awyn

part heirin haistely bot abil zou tua vald parswyd ye Clangregor heirto yairfor best

is ye caus ze men be merwelus cyrcumspect day and nycht for yat can never hurt

bot do mekil guid. Gif ze hef gottyn ony vourd quhat my Lord of Ardgylle his

doand or uyer newis eist throth it vil pleiss zow adverteis with sic ansuer as ze

fynd guid heirinto. And God preserf zow. Writtyn yis Monunday be zour awyn ...

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<sup>1</sup> Encloses three letters [131-3].

<sup>2</sup> For the negotiations over the marriage of Black Duncan and Margaret Stewart see Introduction.

<sup>3</sup> This probably refers to the marriage contract between John Murray, son of William Murray 11th of Tullibardine, and Katherine, daughter of Lilius Ruthven and David, 2nd Lord Drummond, who was Katherine's niece and possibly her god-daughter. John

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and Katherine were married before 20 December 1576, RMS, IV, 2607. Grandtully was using Katherine's tocher of 4,500 merks as the 'going rate', see Introduction.

<sup>4</sup> Grandtully will follow in the footsteps of Maitland's advice.

<sup>5</sup> A marvellously sententious statement.

<sup>6</sup> Add.

<sup>7</sup> This was the beginning of the negotiations for a settlement between Ewin MacGregor, Tutor of Glenstrae, and his brother, Alastair, who were encountered above Garth Castle, below Schiehallion.

<sup>8</sup> Assurances of 12 days, probably for Alastair MacGregor and John Lyon, 8th Lord Glamis.