Date: 18 August 1570
REF: GD112/39/9/21 (SHS ed. No. 140)
Place: Ilanran Castle (Killin)
From: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy (draft)
To: Archibald Campbell, 5th Earl of Argyll
Address:

My Lord after maist hartlie commendatiounis of service.¹ I am suirlie adver-
tesit yat MacGregoris thre brethren² comin to Ardtettill³ ye nummer of
fourtie yis last Wodinisday ye xvj of yis instant at xij houris off
ye day and tuk awa sex scoir ky with scheip and gait. Quhilk Gre-
gor MacAne and sum uyer of my servandis put yair eweist to
zour Lordships boundis for saiftie be ressoun zour Lordship promesit to me in presens
of zour Lordships freindis at our last commoninge yat zour Lordship
wald do deligence to gar keip ye boundis of Glenurquhay
as ye rest of zour Lordships awin bot now ye deid tryis ye contrar.
For ye cry was gevin ye space of tua or thre houris and nevir man
rais nor assistit to it and ye spuilllearis of my puir tenentis
passit at last throucht Glenfalloch to ye Arracher⁴ quhilk is ane gret dishonour
to zour Lordship and skayth to me. Thairfor I pray zour Lordship as ze
luif zour Lordships awin honour caus sum of zour Lordships speciall freindis and
servandis follow and persew ye boundis quhair my geir is reset
and revenge it according to zour Lordships awin honour haistalie. Yat
zour Lordships onfreindis ma knaw yat ze can and ma revenge zour
Lordships awin freindis just actioun. And gif zour Lordship dois nocht yis
consideringe I hald ye landis of Glenurquhay of zour Lordship and takis
God to witness I spendit ye renttis of yaim zeirlie and mair in
zour Lordships fadiris service and zuris as ye deid declaclaris(sic) zour Lordship
maun aperdoun me I will seik remeid at ye autoriteis hand.
Quhilk I dout nocht to obtein gif justice be in Scotland becaus my
actioun is bayth godlie and honorable I pryiss God. I am sore
yat zour Lordship sufferis me to be put to yis point. For gif MacNachtane⁵
had tain als gret painsis to have commandit ye Clangregour to
desist fra hereinge of ye puir anes of Glenurquhay as he deid
in sendinge of messege to yaim to pass of my boundis and leif in
waist zour Lordship wald nocht have had sic dishonour and my puir aneis
sic skayth. For gif zour Lordship rememberis rycht an quhen yair was maist
familiaritie betuix zour Lordship and me and maist plesand promesses maid
to me be zour Lordship I and my puir aneis soun yairefter sustenit gretest
skayth. Prayinge zour Lordship haist zour Lordshipis answier to me quhat ze will do
in revenge of yis caus yat I ma tak ye nixt best yairefter as God
gevis me grace. It arperis(sic) to me yat zour Lordshipis freindis ar offendit
yat yair is kyndness or familiaritie betuix zour Lordship and me
in sa far as yai suffer my puir aneis to be oppressit and tretis ye
doaris yairof. And sen sa is I am hartlie content nevir to cum in [zour]
Lordshipis cumpaine zour Lordship beand weill gif yat man satifie zour Lordshipis
freindis to l...
ye lat ye puir aneis yat duellis in my boundis leift in pece. And ...
thinks nocht to fesche\(^6\) zour Lordship with paper and ink mekle mair. Gif [zour]
Lordship findis nocht ane haistie remeid of ye skayth I and my tenentis
of Glenurquhay hes susstenit sen I departit last fra zour Lordship, quhilk
wald have hurt ane man yat ma spead\(^7\) mair nor I. Bot zit ...
hoip in God to over cum it all. Pleiss zour Lordship to credeit ye ber[ar]
to quhoum I have schawin sum of my mynd to be declarit to zour Lordship and sa
committis zour Lordship to ye protectiou of God. At Ilanran ye xvii o[f]
August 1570.

Be zour Lordshipis kynnisman in his powar,

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1 This letter was probably carried by John MacCorradill, [139; 145].

2 The brothers of Gregor MacGregor of Glenstrae, probably Ewin, who became Tutor of
Glenstrae after Gregor was executed by Grey Colin on 7 April 1570, Alastair
Puddroch and Duncan of the Glen, sons of Alastair MacGregor of Glenstrae and
Mariota Campbell.

3 Ardtteatle, a deserted township just south-west of Dalmally on the old pilgrimage route
to Inishail which became the military road from Inveraray to Tyndrum.

4 Probably the MacGregors went down the Stran Mor (now Lochan Shira) and the top
end of Glen Fyne and through Gleann nan Caorann into Glen Falloch and down Loch
Lomond to Tarbet and so to Arrochar. All of this route would be within Argyll’s
‘country’.
Alexander MacNaughton of Dunderave.

Trouble.

Success or prosperity.