

**Date:** 19 October 1570

**REF:** GD112/39/11/10 (SHS ed. No. 180)

**Place:** Dunkeld

**From:** William Stewart of Grandtully

**To:** Katherine Ruthven, Lady Glenorchy

**Address:** To ye Lady off Glenwrquhay

I resavit zour writis yis day and zesterday and schew my Lord of Atholl ye copy of ye assurance and requyrit his cunsal in ye mater quhay ansuerit yat ze Lard knew his awyn dwetye and promeist weil enenocht and quhen ye mater entrit in hedis he suld gif ansuer to sic as ye Lard vald advertteis hym.<sup>1</sup> As to wdyr writingis ze desyrit to Lochchabir men my Lord of Atholl wald writ nayne bot sayis gif MacRennald and Donald Dow<sup>2</sup> be willyng to cum to ye Lard lat ilk ane of yame send ane special man to his Lordship and he sal declare yame his guid mynd to ye Lardis contentment. As for newis thair cam ane Robeson quhome ze knaw fra ye Queine heir with writyngis fra hir to my Lord of Atholl and siclyk brocht ye copy of ye articlis desyrit be ye Queine of England fra ye Quene of Scotland now laityly be Secretar Cycill.<sup>3</sup> Ye hedis quhairoff wer prolix<sup>4</sup> to writ bot yai ar veray hard and strange I sal do guid wil to get ye copy of yaim. Siclyk ye assurance gifin be ye Regent for ye tua monethis is veray slycht and mony prowysionis maid yairinto swai yat it is nocht thocht veray sufficient. I wil nocht trubbil zow with langer letter for yis present bot efter my hartliest commendatioun committis zow to ye protectioun of God. From Dunkeld yis Thurisday ye xix of October 1570 be

Zouris awyn maist assurit,

W Stewart off Grantullye

[PS] It wil plaiss zow causs Thomas cum eist for ze hef halden hym lang enenocht now fra his wyf.<sup>5</sup> The Cuntrollar<sup>6</sup> ves in Dunkeld and past haime quhilk stayt me say lang for I gat nay rest nycht [or] day say lang as he wes yair. I sal writ al utheris to zow mayr largle vyth ye nixt. Resaiff zour writtis again to

... ye copeis ze send.

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<sup>1</sup> The final stages of the negotiations for the settlement with the MacGregors, concluded on 26 October 1570, when the safe-conduct had been given and the particular points were to be discussed, see MacGregor, thesis, 388f.

<sup>2</sup> Ranald MacDonald of Keppoch and Donald Dubh.

<sup>3</sup> George Robeson brought letters at the start of October concerning the negotiations between Mary, Queen of Scots, and Queen Elizabeth, CSPSc, III, 384-5; 396.

<sup>4</sup> Lengthy or prolix.

<sup>5</sup> Grandtully's son Thomas, who was probably only recently married to Grizel, daughter of Lawrence Mercer of Meikleour, Katherine's brother-in-law, see prenuptial contract, 21 March 1569, RSS, VI, 563.

<sup>6</sup> Tullibardine, the Comptroller.