

Date: 19 September 1570

REF: GD112/39/10/6 (SHS ed. No. 155)

Place: Edinburgh

From: William, 4th Lord Ruthven

To: Katherine Ruthven, Lady Glenorchy

Address: To his sister the Lady Glenwrquhey

Sister efter maist hertlye commendatiounis. I haiff wrettin att lenthe to ye Laird zour husband towart ye effaris quhairof ze gaiff me informacioun sua yat I neid nocht to redubill ye samen in yis letter. Bott always I think werrey meit he hest to com ower seing all thingis is lik-lye to tak effect to his awin hertis desyr for yer is na thing ressonabill he can desyr for fordering his causs yat wilbe refusit and yerfor tyme now wald nocht be tint. My Lord Regent {shew me that ¹} MacFarland and wyers of his procurment trawelit for {lycence} to resot ye Clangregor.² Bott his Grace gaiff plain ansuer yat he w{ald} rayer persew yaim as rebelis to ye ded and giff MacFarland {or his kin} mellit ony way with yaim yai suld incur ye sam danger h... quhai sall shew me in lyk maner yat it wes fals zat wes re[portit of] ... haim *towart ye labouring for our syt* bott he culd nocht stope yaim quha attemptit wrar... deid ... vpon him. Bott schorlye ye Laird suld haiff apperien... .. yis procedingis quhat affectioun he beir to ...kit ... ze credit he hed. He hes augmentit ye ticket³ ... with ... and sayis giff *ony of* his men be giltie yei salbe ye first ... be offerit to ye law. Mak me advertisment [befoir ye Laird] ... to ye effect giff he think it necessar yat it may be present ... at his cuming. Ther is na newis presentlye [heir] bott ye wrettingis quhilkis wer passand fray Monsur Werak⁴ and ye [Lord] Flemyng out of Dumbartoun to Athole ar tain be ye gait ... It is manifesit yat ye K[ing] of F[rance] will request for ye Quein bott he will be lothe [to] ... [to] conquest ye inemie of ye maist part of Scotl[and] ... considderat freindis to his realm. The pest is warray grett in ye north

partis of England and speciallye through all Northumberland and
ye bordoris. As I haiff uyer occa[sioun] ye salbe advertisit and sua
for ye present ceasing to trubill zow w[ith] langer [lettir] committis zow
to ye protectioun of ye eternall. A{t Edinburgh yis} ... x[ix] of
September. Commend me to my sone Duncan⁵ ...
to cum doun at farrest again my return ...

Z[ouris] ...

[Ruthven]

¹ Readings from GD50/116/241-2.

² MacFarlane and his clan were accused of resetting the MacGregors and signet letters were obtained against them, GD112/1/193, see Introduction.

³ This must refer to Drumquhassil who provided extra names, see [156].

⁴ The letters of Monsieur Verac (a French soldier and diplomat) to Maitland were intercepted by the King's Party, CSPSc, III, 353; 362-3.

⁵ Black Duncan who was Ruthven's godson.