

Date: 19 September 1570

REF: GD112/39/10/7 (SHS ed. No. 156)

Place: Edinburgh

From: William, 4th Lord Ruthven

To: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

Address: To the rycht honorabill and his maist speciall frend the Lard of Glenorquhay

Rycht honerabill Sir efter maist hertlye commendatioune. Sen my cuming to yis toun I haif spokin

my Lord Regent and ye Erll of Mortoun¹ in zour effaris according to zour awin informatioun giffin me be my sister zour bedfallow² quhome I find werry desyrus to haif zour presens heir sa shortlye as ze may to confer with zow baithe in ye common effaris as also in zour awin particularis. Quharin my Lord Regent is als weill myndit as ze wald wyss and hes assurit me yat nochtwithstanding he hes gottin monye persuasiounis to shawe fawour to zour enemis yai sall haiff nain of him mair nor yai hed of ye Regentis Grace yat is with God.³ And att zour cuming ze satesfing His Grace ressonable towart ye advancement of ye Kingis authoritye and zour dew obedience *to His Maiestie* he sall nocht onlye persew ye Clangre-

gor as ze desyr bott alsua with his awin persoun will defend zow aganis ye grettest within yis realm giff yai suld pres to anoy zow or z[our] rewmis.⁴ As to ye punisment of sic of ye Clanfarlan as wes att ye slawchter of zour men ze wilbe satisfeit in yat matter. And ordour wilbe tain for ye resett of ye Clangregor in lyk wys within ye boundis off Lennox.⁵ My Lordis Grace thocht nocht necessar to wrett to zow att yis tyme becaus it is sa short quhyll sen he wrett of befor *to ye sam effec* bot desyrit me to latt zow test of his gud mynd quhairoff ze suld know forder att metting. He fand sum falt yat he hed wrettin twyss to zow and yat ze wrett nocht again. I excusat ye matter yat ze thocht to be sa shortlye att His Grace yat ze deleyit to wrett quhill be zour awin presence ze gaiff ansuer quhilk he wes weill applesit with. Ze sall resaiff ane letter of my Lord of Mortonis⁶ quhom I find contenew his freindschip towart zow on ye auld maner of bye I trust ze will persave als mekle in effect as I wrett. The Laird of Drumquhassill⁷

shawis him werrey freindlie to me in zour effaris and sayis ze sall
find his guid will in zat he may do and hes giffin me many
namis of ye Clanfarlain yat wes in cumpany with ye Clangregor
nor wes contenit in ye ticket I gatt fray zour bedfallow. And for
the men yat dwellis vpoun his landis *giff onie off yaim be guiltie yai* salbe ye first yat
salbe presentit
to punishment. Seing ye tyme servis weill for zow to gett
zour hand beyound zour enemies I wald ze maid ze gretter
hest to cum heir becaus ye Erl of Mortoun passis schortlye to
ye bordor. And sua refarring ze rest to zour awin wysdoun committis
zow in ye protectioun of ye eternall. At Edinburgh yis Tysday lett
ye xix of September 1570.

Zouris rycht assurit att power,
Ruthven

¹ Matthew Stewart, 4th earl of Lennox and James Douglas, 4th earl of Morton.

² See [155].

³ Lord James Stewart, Regent Moray.

⁴ Probably a reference to possible reprisals by the 5th earl if Grey Colin joined the King's Party, see Introduction.

⁵ These were the two charges that Grey Colin had against the MacFarlanes, see Introduction.

⁶ See [157].

⁷ John Cunningham of Drumquhassill had provided names of MacFarlanes resetting the MacGregors and so made it easier to obtain signet letters against them, GD112/1/193. He also put pressure on George Buchanan of that ilk, [163].