

**Date:** 23 August 1570 [1st letter]

**REF:** GD112/39/9/29 (SHS ed. No. 145)

**Place:** Dalinglongart (near Dunoon, Cowal)

**From:** Archibald Campbell, 5th Earl of Argyll

**To:** Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

**Address:** To our traist cousing Collein Campbell of Glenvrquhaye

Traist cousing efter maist hertlie commendatiounis. We h[ave resavit] zour letter and hes haird the credeit of zour serv[and] and for the Clangregor that hes of lait hereit and spuizeit [zour land] and tenenttis in Glenvrquhay.<sup>1</sup> And ze burden us of our promes[s] ... saiftie yairof as to that ye know our promess was performit ... for in zour awin presence and be zour awin desyir we ap[pointit] our freindis and servandis the Laird of Parbrek<sup>2</sup> with sum of ye m[en] {of Lorn<sup>3</sup>} and all Lochhowe<sup>4</sup> was all ordenit to keip ye saidis bo[undis] off Glenvrquhay togidder with sum number to haif followit the Clangregor quhilkis was mair nor zour awin desyir for the present an[d ... nocht]-withstanding that our self haid our forces at that tyme ... to haif paist to ye Lawland. And gif men hes nocht done yair ... we vill mak God juge that ye wyit was nocht in [yis] negligent yairfor it is nocht neidfull to blame us of our promess ony far[der] ... it was spoikin. And als for the revenge ze think guid to ... [obtane] of the rasetteris of zour and zouris guidis and geir. As to that in ... we wilbe maist willing yairto sua that ze send sum speciall heidis man with sum number of zour awin men to do the saymen and we sall gif of our men to pass with zouris the double number and yis als ...shortlie as ze will think neidfull efter our first command ... And als for the remidid ze will saik at the auchtoreteis hand ... for ony ... we know nane bot the Queinis Maieste auchto[ritie] ... and gif ... be that vyer trayittouris auchtoretie we th... ... may mak zou bot auld friendis and kynn[ismen] ... thay be als ...dable seing thay will apply yame yairto. And quhar ... that ze ... our kin and freindis are offendit with familiar ... betuix ws and ... as to that gif it be we neither knowis ... thinkis that

they suld beir mair favour to ye Clangregor ... to zour ...elkis ...  
nor never will put zour hous in ballance with sic ewil men ...  
For the knowlaige yairof God willing housone ... returne fra thir  
pretendit tryist we sall conveyn the haill surname<sup>5</sup> samone as are within  
us in ane hous and thair sall know yair myndis towardtis zow and  
quhat delegece and painnis thai will tak for zour releif. And  
than gif thay will think to tyne zou in yair defalt ze wilbe the  
less to blame to seik remeid at uder handis. An[d as for our] awin parte  
in particuler we will never fail in our constancies [towardtis] zow  
bot will conteneu yairin as we haif done never the less of my  
suspitioun zour vilfulnes will moif zou to. Als for Maknaithan<sup>6</sup>  
we will nocht write lang of that matter bot awayis he sall  
ever abyid the jugment of zour self and our kyn in our presence and  
gif he hes offendit salbe pvnissit. Faryair we pray zow to mak  
us haistie advertisment of zour resoluit mynd heir anennttis because we and  
oder nobill men are to pas to that parte to meit with the nobill men that  
are to be thair of the monethe. The causs of ye haistie answer is  
that zour writting is exstreim and except we pas thair vpoun our  
awin garde for the convoy of oder nobill men gif ze be nocht mair satisfieit  
with zour self. Thairis syndrie oder heidis spoikin to us be the beirare  
as credeit to the quhilkis we think nocht neidfull to gif ansuer to in write  
and hes schavin our mynd yairanenttis to the beir(sic) to quhome ze sall gif  
credeit on thayis heidis he hes schawin to us. And sua referring  
to zour nixt advertisment with haist to us. We commit zou to God.  
Off Dellinlangphorte the xxiiij daye of August 1570.

Youris asswritly,  
Archibald Eryll

[PS] Zour serwand hes sawyn  
ws sum credyt gyf we  
culd belyf wald mak ane  
mair passyant<sup>7</sup> man nor ws  
angry at ye hart all wayis

we refer all to meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> This refers to Grey Colin's angry letter of 18 August 1570 [140] not the letter of 20 August [142], also see 5th earl's 2nd letter, [146].

<sup>2</sup> Colin Campbell of Barbreck, the natural son of the 4th earl of Argyll and half-brother to the 5th earl.

<sup>3</sup> Readings from GD50/116/66-7.

<sup>4</sup> All the men of Lochawe and some of Lorn under Barbreck and others to pursue the MacGregors.

<sup>5</sup> The 5th earl is offering to convene the whole of Clan Campbell to sort out Grey Colin's MacGregor problem.

<sup>6</sup> Alexander MacNaughton of Dunderave.

<sup>7</sup> Patient.