

**Date:** 7 June 1570

**REF:** GD112/39/7/8 (SHS ed. No. 96)

**Place:** Kilchurn Castle (Loch Awe)

**From:** Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

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

**Address:**

My Lord efter maist hartlie commendatiouns of service. Pleiss zour Lordship yat efter I resavit zour Lordshipis writing anent ye ost desyryng me to mak furth fyif or sax scoir of men with ane abill man to be yair capitaine quhilk I acceptit in ane gud part. And thoth I had nocht ane mair ganand<sup>1</sup> man of my houss nor ye Lord of Glenlyon<sup>2</sup> quha acceptit yat charge als glaidlie as I culd wiss bayth for zour Lordshipis honour and myin. And zesterday efternoin tuk his leif passing hame to have rasit ye men sic as I commandit maist ganand for ye purpoiss. And I convoyit him agaitward upforang Stronmelochoun<sup>3</sup> and returnit agane knawand na thing of ye fowll and cowrit disseit<sup>4</sup> devyssid bayth for me and him. For ye neycht afoir Ewin MacGregor Duncairn Glen his broyer Duncairn Abrycht<sup>5</sup> with certaine uyeris of yair surname and band com quyatie and placit yaim selfis in ye wod of Stronmelochoun neir ye water syid forgang ye quosche<sup>6</sup> and lay in deun yair quhill Glenlyon departit fra me bot ane quyate numer. And followit efter him to ye numer of xxxvi men nocht evill provydit of culveringis haberschonis and uyir armour as I wald wiss at God yat all zour Lordshipis awin servandis war na(sic) well-stakit yai followit upoun with gret deligence and nerit him in Glenlyon in ye neycht. Nocht knawand of yair parsuit quhill yai war parsaut be wemen yat rasit ye cry and yain he eschapit prysit be God with out harme except ane horss that buir his clayis and twa boyis quhilk yai apprehendit and tuk awa with yaim. My Lord your Lordship sall consider gif yis was ane assay<sup>7</sup> or nocht for yai war furnesit to yis onset be zour Lordshipis guid serwand MacNachtane<sup>8</sup> and gat meill of his awin to trish<sup>9</sup> with yaim and war ye neycht afoir in ye bra of Glenfynin<sup>10</sup> with his serwandis quhilk salbe provin

unto your Lordship. And gif your Lordship will wye ye causse sefficientlie as I think your Lordship suld  
yat Maknachtane nor na uyer yat servis your Lordship suld have conspyrit my dethe nor assistit yairto as he hes doin in furnesing and settinge furth yaim yat pretendit ye samin suld  
dress over without conding<sup>11</sup> puneishment. Zit always I will nocht cast in ballance your Lordshipis honour and ye gret offence maid to me at yis tyme bot will advance sa mony men as your Lordship desyris quha sall keip dyat gif yairbe na stay of your armie als sufficient God willing as wyeris sall. Onder protestatioun gif it pleis your Lordship yat or gr... efferis occur yat ye offenc maid to me be handlit as becumis vnto your Lordshipis honor and my just satisfioun. For gif it standis in furnesinge of throtcuttoris and sic conspiratouris I have als meikle meit to spair as MacNachtane hes. Bot I tak God to witness yat I was nevir for sic practesses bot onlie for ye zeill of justice. Bot sen yai have walkommit yat thinge yat I suspectit nocht in huntinge efter my lyf I can do na less nor to rencontrer<sup>12</sup> bayth ye devysoris  
and interpryssoris of ye samin as God will grant me grace your Lordship standand my gudly  
freind and cheif as your predicissouris was to myin. Pleiss your Lordship to creidit ye berar  
quha knawis of ye proceedingis be ane man was yair cumpane. Haist ye berar to me with advertesment of your armie. Committing your Lordship to God from  
Glenurquhay  
ye vij of Junii 1570.

---

<sup>1</sup> Suitable.

<sup>2</sup> Duncan Campbell of Glenlyon who was to take charge of the troops mentioned [94].

<sup>3</sup> Along the road up in front of Stronmilchan, at the foot of Glen Strae, about a mile from Kilchurn Castle.

<sup>4</sup> Foul and cringing or cowardly deceit.

<sup>5</sup> Ewen MacGregor, tutor of Glenstrae, Duncan Glen and his borther Duncan Abbroch.

<sup>6</sup> The 'Cosche' (market) of Glenorchy, a hillock above Stonmilchan where a market was held at Martinmas and Michaelmas.

---

<sup>7</sup> Attack.

<sup>8</sup> Alexander MacNaughton of Dunderave, half-brother to the MacGregors, see Appendix C.

<sup>9</sup> Probably tryst.

<sup>10</sup> Glen Fyne.

<sup>11</sup> Well-merited.

<sup>12</sup> Encounter.