

Date: 28 April 1571

REF: GD112/39/13/2 (SHS ed. No. 189)

Place: Stirling Castle

From: Annabella Murray, Countess of Mar

To: Colin Campbell of Glenorchy

Address: To the rycht honorabill and my weilbelovit freind the Lard Gleinorchar

Efter my weray hartlie commendatiounes. This is till adverteis zow that my Lord is myndit to mak sum prowisioun for his dochter and myne inrespect quhairof it is requisite that thair be sum curatouris chosin to hir. And wnderstanding zow to be ane quhom I think maist tender and deir to me and hir baith and ane of our speciall kynnismen I am willing to nominate zow as ane of thame.¹ Thairfoir I haif thocht gud to let zow knaw heirop and hes send the berar to zow for the sam effect quhom ze sall credeit. Ferther for newis I haif nane to mak zow adverteisment bot the Kingis Majestie is rycht blyth (praise to God) with all the rest of freindis heir.² Praying zow to mak me participant of sik newis as ze haif in thai partis. I haif na wther mater to wreit to zow for the present committing zow to the protectione of the eternall. Fra Stirling Castell this Setturday the xxviiij of Aprile 1571.

Be zour aynt at power,

Annabella Countess of Mar

¹ Grey Colin was being asked to act as a curator for Mary, Annabella's daughter. Though Annabella signed herself aunt she was in fact Grey Colin's cousin, see Appendix C and Introduction. John Erskine, earl of Mar, was also a more distant cousin to Grey Colin through his Campbell mother. Grey Colin acted as curator both for Mary, 19 April 1573, and for John, Mar's eldest son and heir who succeeded on 28 October 1572, Clan Campbell, 6, 25; 48.

² The young King James VI was brought up in Mar's household at Stirling Castle.