

## **Memoir of William Douglas of Lochleven, 1559-1585**

National Records of Scotland GD150/2234

Michael Pearce            3 October 2024

The text is bound in a booklet with William Douglas' will.

The narrative starts 1559-60, and after a blank page in the manuscript, continues 1561-1585.

There is a separate copy of the story of the reformation crisis in a secretary hand.

Sir William Douglas is known as the jailer of Mary Queen of Scots. Here he gives his opinion of the Reformation Crisis, the murders of Riccio, Darnley, and his friend Regent Moray, the Ruthven Raid and Gowrie Regime, and his time in ward and exile.

The text was described and quoted by Margaret Sanderson, in her *ODNB* article on William Douglas. An encounter with David Rizzio has been printed or quoted several times.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas McCrie, *Life of John Knox* (Edinburgh, 1831), p. 289 fn.

[illegible]

[1]

O lord most mychtie most mersifull and eternall fadir quha  
hes ewer and eternally bene ye protectour off thaim of ye  
kirk on to yis day in all ages and I as ane pure  
member off ye samyn hes fand thy mersifull fafour  
protecting hand from tyme 'to tyme' continually being my defence in  
my troubill quhilk thow O lord madis to me to be...  
na trowbills br thy mercifull protexioun ye number off  
them my hart his nocht abill to thank far les my tounge  
to expres sua I am nocht able to giff the sufficient  
thankis for ye samyn & therfor I pray 'maist' humbly thy dew[ine]  
majesty to exsep 'us throw' obedience off thy deirly belowit  
son in quhom and by quhen off thy mersy thow axcept  
us as thy childering I acknowledge O lord thy  
mersies to haiff ~~haiff~~ bene with me continually  
sen my muthirs bellie but lord maist specially sen  
ye begening of ye plantin of yes thy kirk  
newly reformat with in yis countre from ignorance  
and idolatrye quharoff thy hail kyrk of  
Scotland and I as ane pur member ther off dois  
randir thay my maist humble & hartle thankis  
quhilk wes begun and plantit be thy only  
mersy as ye samyn may evidentlie apeir be ye  
sucses off ye samyn in first quhar yat thow  
sendis us thy faiffull serwand Jhone Knox quha  
deid secretly the taiche and pretche thy  
maist blesit word 3eit mony hard him<sup>2</sup> &  
I at ane said tymes udirs ther war lykways  
O lord as Maister Willok [blank space] arlay<sup>3</sup> and Pal Meffe[n]  
with sum udir, weill willing according to thee qualitie that  
thow didis bestow upon them

i

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<sup>2</sup> 'yet' – although he preached secretly many heard him preach.

<sup>3</sup> 'arlay' – William Harlay, see Knox, *History of the Reformation*, ii, (1842), 300.

[2]

bot thy lord ye devil ragit and his memberis quhilk  
ye idolatres preistis and ther assisteris quhill eftir  
prosedid to ane sentence aganis thy servands  
in place of him selff did burne his pictures  
but praysit be to thy M he was nocht hym self bot  
thow off thy mersy dedeis preserve him to ane better  
tyme quhill yat off mersy didis muffle ye harts off  
som off ye nobilatie and som baronis quhar I was ane  
to wrett for him quhilk letter doubtles prosed-  
it only fra ye fontaine of thy mersy quhilk did muff  
ther hartis be syk menis as thow knawis quh-  
dit resort shortlie to yis countre thereftir lykways  
be thy mersy gud lord and at his first entrie  
begane to preche and teche thy doctrine plenly  
quhar at ye devil and all his memberis be [-nk]  
to [?rore] lyk [?rampyng] [?lyons] be resson off ye reformation  
maid be his 'doctryne' at Donde & Sanct Jonston and war off  
porpos I mein ye quene regent with her Frensemen  
and divers off ye nobelatie thocht to haiff sacit  
the tounis bot thow lord reche in mersy [?ded inspire 'wt']  
remaid and stay them off ther purpos and thy  
kirk optenit ressonable apointment at yat tyme off  
thay [?war] & quhilk apointment thy enemies thocht na wayes  
to keip quhilk cawsit many off yis countra draw to thy  
kirk and pass to SanctAs and mak ther reformation &  
dislogit [b-][-fas] Immediately ye quene ye bishop  
ye duc with mony nobilmen ye Frenese men rid  
to persaw thay flock 3eit thow lord reche in maist  
infinet in gudnes deid giff thy pepill syk curage yat [a-]  
day instandly at thy wark being bot ane small number turns  
on off ye multitude off our enemies & warlyk men off

wair at cowbe muir<sup>4</sup> didis saiff thy flok and man ye  
enemenis harts to be content off ressonable appointment

2

[3]

quhair off we did and nocht leis randir on to thy ,M, all  
laud and prays therfor, was it nocht thy hand yat  
didis win ye toun of Perth quhar yat ye ene-  
mis haid left tua bandis off men off weir ther in  
by ye apointment and yat with wt blud quhar at  
thy kirk now and thay prysys thy mersy lykways quhilk  
grait cawss hes thy kirk to prayis thy majestye  
for yat thow gaiff them syk harts to pass shortlie  
ther eftir to Stirleving and maik ther reformation &  
straik syk feir and dredour in ye harts off ye quene  
& thays was with hir movit hir to retir fra Edr  
to Dunbar with hir company and befor our coming to  
ye toun 'of Edinburgh' thay haid reformit them selffis frely it may  
be callit thay wark for it was thy hand quhilk wrocht  
ye samyn for we war na company and becaus ye  
company quhilk we war culd 'byd' nocht all ye gidder  
ther wes ane order maid be thay [providence] yat  
syk suld remaine and ewerye man according to  
his abelate suld hald sa mony as mycht nocht remaine  
them selffis ye enemie knowing ye ~~enemy~~ sa  
hotlie ye Franche men with ther hail number with  
many off yis nation cum furth Dunbar all [instand]  
cum and in ye morning to Lieth sands and haid deleverit  
us haid nocht bene thy mersy quhilk to movit our  
harts to offir [faich] and [waik] [syk] [feir] in ther  
hartis quhat be occation off yer mistraist quhilk thay  
haid off ther awne company and udir motiounis

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<sup>4</sup> Coupar Muir. The 'reasonable appointment' was a parlay with Henri Cleutin.

quhilk thow put in to ther harts for yat nesar  
off thy flock thay war content off ane ressonable  
apointment and thy kirk preservit from des[-]

3

[4]

quhar off thy kirk hes occatioun to randir thy M [-]  
all thanks and I for my awne part, bot shortlie eftir  
yis appointment thy enemies brak ye samyn be fort-  
fing ye toune of Lethe quhilk muffit dyvers uders  
of ye nobelatie & baronis to joine with us as  
duk Hamilton and divers udirs in the sothe west [-]  
than we cam to Edinburgh [afor] ye allotit day ane grat  
host off men and mony we wer our enemies sa as  
ye natur off men his we began to traist sum the  
to our strenthe quhilk was mer folly and optenit  
na vantage at yat sege bot war constrenit to haiff  
ye samyn withwt ony mwer apointment but in yis  
samyn tyme we thy kirk haid divers occationes to  
randir the maist hartlie thanks for thay kirk  
was always off ane grait curage and thay didis pre-  
serwe them divers tymes in scarmissis & specially  
quha can bot render thanks on to thy devine M  
in yat we war off mynd to enter in Lythe on ye nycht  
at ane slop<sup>5</sup> we war advertise off was down and  
befor we cum nar ye toun ~~thow~~ day brak & [?we] [?seing]  
our company was nocht in number to fift part sa  
mony as our enemies was with in yer [-] sua  
we begane to thank thy M yat send us day &  
returnit to Edinburgh ye nyxt nycht we [?left] ye  
town perseving our few number and raid Lithkow  
and syn to Sterlewing<sup>6</sup> quhar we maid ane new band no

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<sup>5</sup> 'slop' – a hole in the wall.

dowt be thy mersy yat quhat contra or ony off us  
war perwit be ye enemies ye rest suld war yer [-]  
in yer relief & sua we departit & away to our [?awn]  
4

[5][French operations in Fife frustrated]

than ye enemy began to rage and thocht utirlely to overthrow  
thy kirk and immediatlie plantit men off weir in  
Stirlewing the quhilk man off weir cum forwards to  
Fiff to pershw thy flock the quhilk ane grait and  
number off them yat war in Lyth mait them at  
the sands betuix Brentisland and Kinghorn quhar they  
war ther skermissit a litter be som men off wair and  
ye said off ye [?tounis] ther abowt being bot ane few  
unexperit company in respect off ye enemy bot  
thanks be to thay devine /m/ in preserving our  
company at yat tyme by thy mercifull hand as [I saw]  
quhair off I thank and ewer bound to giff ye thanks  
for ye samyn was it nocht thy only mersy yat muffit  
and number off thy flock to hald them selffs  
ye gidder and abid at Disert and ye Wemiss ye  
enemy being in Kinghorne quhilk was ane ane occa-  
tion off ther stay ther ane space na dowt  
was by thy grait providence for ye weilfair off thay  
flok for quhow soune yat they tuke purpos to  
persew us & caws us to disloge nocht with wt  
grait skirmissis shortlie ther eftir thay passing to  
Sanctandirs being at Levinsmouth<sup>7</sup> did se som Inglis  
shipis off weir traisting thay haid bene France men  
and cuming to them deid giff ther [?wole] off reusing  
bot praysit be to thy M ther joy turnit to sorrow & reter-  
nit backward with grait deligence to Lyth &

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<sup>6</sup> 26 July 1559, Knox, ii, 381.

<sup>7</sup> 'Levinsmouth' – in other versions of this story the ships were seen from 'Kincraig'.

ther company be Sterlewing quhar [?well] dowl bot  
this wark presedit from ye fontaine off thy  
mersy for thay thocht to haiff fortifiet Sanctandirs  
at that tyme and to haiff put fordir the Fery ondir[-]  
and Sainct Jonston with ye tounis in Fiff  
cost syd v

[6][treaty of Berwick]

quhar off all in generall and everie member in particular  
hes cawss continually to render thanks on to thy maist exs-  
land /m/ for delivering us quhen thay aperit nothing  
to our eas bot destruction zeit lord [?thow] ryche in mersy  
didis provide ye remaid be ye [fewe number] off [?sups] off Scot-  
land yat war off lait off our enemies quhilk was  
ane begening off ye reconciliation amang us and yat  
the harts of them quhilk war in malic against  
them throw wand off yer predessirs in battell  
begoun to be slokenit as I knaw be experience in my  
self for ye want off my fadir at ye field off Py[nkie]  
war ye first occation yat I deit remit ye samyn to  
my hart quha dotis nocht therfor bot ye samyn pro-  
sedit off thy gudnes to jone ye harts off bayth  
theis countre the gidder quha sa lang tym haiff bene  
in continuall waris ye gidder, and muffed certaine  
off us at yat tyme to pass to Berweik to maik  
contracte for suche off ye Inglis arme quhilk  
in yer eftir at ye spryng tyme to assist us for p-  
ing off our enemies foris in Leith quha deid  
cum in in convoy and on ye samyn sonday ewin didis ly  
our camp quha can bot randir prays and thankis  
to thy devine /m/ for ye maist happe lying down  
ther off be ane lang scarmiss with instant 'may'  
and sum lycht hors off Ingland togidder quhar be we ower[-]-  
lit ye to stay ther scarmissis and we laid doune baith



divers off ther agbussers and compellit ye said furth  
our camps quietly with wt ony hurt on our part pray-  
sit be to thy omnipotent mersy

6

[7][siege of Leith]

for ye samyn and ye conference off ye samyn ‘sage’ be mony  
grait scarmishe at mony andivers tymes and  
off ye many full braithe that thow muffit  
baithe off Inglis men and off ours to enter  
to leddir ye wallis quha althocht war  
repulsit it lord it straik syk ane  
feir in to ye harts off them with in  
ye toun yat shortlie ther eftir ye samyn  
wa agreit to be randerit with [gra-nd]  
off piece as the samyn beris in sertane arty-  
clis ther deit at saige mony & diver Inglis  
man and mony ewell hurt and evil mal3-  
velit<sup>8</sup> at ye braithe and at syndere uder scarmiss  
sis off befor ye samyn bot lord thow maid  
ye end happy and thay [-] word to cum to  
in still to & from tyme to tyme sen syne quhar off  
thy haill kirk and ewerie particular  
member theroff hes cawss to reforme and  
prays thy grait mersy & in special as  
ane pure member off ye samyn dois randir  
with all my hart maist hartle and h[-]  
was for perswing in particular thy luffing  
favour & mersy towards me thy unwrthy  
creature

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<sup>8</sup> ‘mengellit’ in the copy.

[8][The personal rule of Mary]

was it nocht thow O lord yat ð maid it knawin to ye  
warld yat we off ye religioun myndit na udir thing  
bot thay only sertaine and [?gudly] yat eftir ye daithes  
of king Francis of France quho wes husband  
to our queen James Stuart erle off Morray sensyn  
past to France be ye advis off ye rest off ws off  
religioun declaring to hir yer yat nane of yat  
religioun myndit ony thing bot ther due obedience  
to hir as natural princesse nixxt ther duetie to  
yeir god ther eftir shortlie sche arrivit at  
Lith and cam to ye Abbay quhair sche be can to haiff  
mes be sum preistis quhilk cam with hir owt of Fra[nce]  
to ye grait discontentment off mony yat servit  
‘god’ fering yat na gud suld falow therby for all  
yat war papists war glad ther off as with it leik  
thay thocht to maik yer advantage therby for nocht  
lang ther eftir ye erle bothwell being off the  
faction off papists be ye advis an counsaill off  
udir, cam privallie to Falkland and their tocht  
to haiff slaine ye forsaid James being ane off  
ye principall off religioun bot ye samyn  
was revelit be ye erle of Arran [?Hamilton]  
quha movit off [?conscience] and frendship to ye said  
James passit verray hardele fra [-] [haw-]  
with and cam with all deligience to Fiff to maik  
advertissiment<sup>9</sup> quha doutis bot ye samyn prosedit  
from thy gudnes and thy kirk did rander that  
in maist hartlie thanks

8

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<sup>9</sup> Arran’s journey to Falkland from Kinniel was represented as madness by Randolph, rather an attempt to save Moray’s life. George Buchanan’s version is close to Lochleven’s narrative. James Stewart, earl of Moray was Lochleven’s half-brother.

[9]

ye erle Bothwell being commit In ward with In ye castell  
off Edinburgh for yat [actes] eschakit ye said ward and  
eftir being persewit at ane day befor ye justice  
comperit nocht and tuik ye [?vyay] upon him abowt yat samyn  
'tym' ane soun off ye erle of Huntles callit Jhone Gordoun  
eschakit ward wt off towbuth off Edinburgh being  
put therin for ye hurting off ye lord Ogillve being  
restand with his fadir ye quene and hir consaill  
passit to ye north to Innernes quhair ther wes  
divers interprises maid be ye Jhone Gordon & his  
fadir for ye skaithe off ye said James erle off  
Murray & divers udirs off ye quene [?his s awn]  
being off ye religioun bot allwais god maid them  
impediment giff ony occation to 'ye to fallen' them upon som  
better oportunatie quhen prosedit '[?divers]' of thay gudnes  
for ye saiffie off thy awne was it nocht thy  
mervelous wark for ye service off thayme alone  
kirk yat didis serff thayme pepeill at Corychie  
being sowld lyk sclavis zeit thow O lord mychte  
in powar and infinit in gudnes did schaw thay  
seff ya god off hostis in preserving ye best sort  
off thay kirk and nobilitie in Scotland fra yat  
most abominable tresson for nocht with standing off  
ye earl of Huntlie wardlie wod and grait force &  
friendship quhilk he haid off them on ane syd quha  
'did' als mekill as [him] them lay to haiff [?dewrit -]  
and to the jugement off men the said erle was said  
to haiff gottin quene coutra nobilate in to his hands  
bot thow lord didis [-] 'rendir' ways to his ovir thraw  
and saiftie of thair flok quhair off thy kirk off

9

[10]

Scotland and is in particular for my awne part hes  
cause to render thaym maist humble & eternall  
thanks for yat grait deliverance, nocht lang eftir  
my lord Darnley cam fra Ingland being ane Stuart  
and eldest son to ye erle lenox quhen ye  
quene tuik to husband quhilk was ane thing  
plesand to mony Scots men quha likit he wes off  
Stewarts and for my awnd part prysed god  
quhill ye quene muffit hym to pass to ye mes  
with hir ther was som conselors with ye quene  
yat counselit hir to put at divers off ye religioun  
as ye Duk Hamilton ye erlis off Argyll  
Murray Rothes Glengern ye lord Boyd and  
Ochiltree with divers baronis off ye religioun &  
provests off tounis as Doune Sanctandis  
Kekobre off Fiff and besyd ye barones yat  
list Scotland with ye lords all ye rest off  
them yat war in Fiff quhilk professit ye  
religioun war put in sundry wards yat  
to ye aperans off mony ye religioun was  
aperantlye to be extinguishit at ye quhilk tyme  
I fand thy mercifull perfecting hand toward me  
divers ways as my hart desyr & specially  
off yat quhilk enemies dewisit contrair me  
for my hart did returne to my comfort praysit  
be to the almychte god. ther wes ane etalien  
ane wekit man<sup>10</sup> quha wes greteist in credit with  
the quene ther was nane off the nobill men  
that mycht get moyens at ye quene hl hand [but]

10

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<sup>10</sup> David Riccio.





[11][the murder of Riccio]

by him for he wald na ways be content bot he wald  
haiff ye nobell men off ye religioun forfeit as ther  
wes ane apointit day for ye samyn befor ye quhilk  
day I cawsit offer to hym giff he wald caws stay  
the erle of murray forfeit [-] he sald haiff  
v thowsand pundis scotts his answer was xx thwsand  
and that all alik I wald nocht le, the king the  
quenes husband was nawais content with him  
that he suld pretend to roulle yat he oure yet  
nathing doune for him, at the quenes hand tuk  
purpose be assentall off said uders lords off the [?region/religioun]  
as the erle of Mortoun the lord Ruthven & [?lynsay]  
the secretair andivers baronis and was off pur-  
pois to haiff geven in sum [?anesh] and apunist him be  
ordour off justice bot men proponit and god  
disponit udir wais be said extraordinarie meanis  
quhilk surly my awn hart aborit quhen I saw  
hym for I never consentit yat he suld haiff beane  
usit by justyce nathir was it in ony nobillmen  
his mynd, bot all ways it stayit ye forfeit  
off ye nobilmen off ye religioun at yat tyme & ye  
fasting & prayers off the kirk was hard quhilk [-][-]  
-nit fra god in vaine, the king ther eftir was  
off mynd to haiff ruld his wiff ye quene  
be ye advis off ye nobilate quhilk [-]  
bot shortlie ther efter sche draw him by [-]  
to ye hurt off him and them at quhilk tyme  
I reterit me to Ergill ane quhille and in quiet  
maner in udir parts quhar I fand god my comfort  
for always and [-] my praier delywer  
me wt off yat trouble

[12]

and yat be his grait mersy quha maid ye mai[ns]  
be ye maid wiff yat was with ye quene at ye  
byrthe off ye king to be solister for my piece  
quhair off I am bound continually to rander the  
maist hartlie and humble thankis for yat  
amangs thay udir grait benefits yat I haiff  
resewit continually at thy hand. was nocht all thow  
Soctis hartlie glaid and deid rather thanks to thay m  
for ye byrth off ye price being off ane Scotis nobill m[an]  
begotten and off ane native princes borne quha being  
mariet off befor to ane [-] and haid na ische  
as for my awn part I deid rander thanks to thaym  
for ye samyn appering blessing to our nation and all  
[-] quha can nocht bot giff thy /m/ humble thanks  
for ye merfulws preserving off ye said prynce  
in respect off ye grait warienes quhilk was  
betuix his parents and In speciall off ye grait  
mistreatment yat his mother bure towards his  
fadir, yat sche shortlie eftir this pastyme died inter  
in famylarite with ye erle Bothwell and  
ye said erle deid crwly put down his fadir in  
ane maist abominable maner in Edinburgh to ye  
great schame and ignominar off the countra and religioun  
therin reformat quha can bot agknawlage it to be  
thy wark yat did so muiff ye hart off ye quene  
to desyre ye castell off Edinburgh fra ye erle off Mar  
and he for him hir sone then prynce is in

[13]

for ‘custody’ & keping and kepin off ye said erle and his frynds quha [-]  
bot ye samyn prosedit for his ‘villanie’ be thy providence for shortlie  
eftir yat echame was maid [~~ye quene~~] ye erle bothwell  
died ravis ye quene and marryd hir nocht by hir awin  
will, quhairby ane grait company off nobill men off ye  
prynsipall [?part] ye countra convenit at Stirlewing and ther  
maid ane band with the erle off Mar desiring him  
to keip the prince person ther in his [-] and  
thay sould all [?liv] ther guidis and lands for presser-  
ving off ye pryncis person quhill thay suld [-] dayes  
be ye resson for said off ye murther off his fadir &  
ye marriage off ye erle Bothwell to his modir, quha  
Scots men then did nocht persaiff ye vaill off ye [-] in-  
+ ‘nasent’ prynce & ye religioun giff ye erle bothwell haid past  
forwards with wt stop, wast it nocht that god yat  
diddest muiff ye harts off divers nobell men & baro-  
nis to cam agait ward to Borthwick and ther [?thocht] to  
haiff gottin ye said erle murtherer att ye  
quhair upon prosedit shortlie Carbary Hill quhair ye  
quene ye erle Bothwell andivers company with them  
cam from Dunbar and ye nobilatie and baronis  
and f[orsai]d ye [?tounis] yat tenderit ye glore off god &  
punishment off yat murther cam fra Edinburgh quhar  
ye erle Bothwell murtherer refusit particular battel  
and tuik ye flight quhair ye quene was taine and  
be ye advis off ye nobill men yat wer at Carbary  
was ordenit to be conveyt and to remaine in my place<sup>11</sup>  
ane shorte ‘tym’ quhill ye haile lords and nobilatie forsaidd  
sald convene at Sterline quhilk I haid na like to

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<sup>11</sup> ‘place’ – Lochleven castle.



grant on to

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[14]

bot ye haill nobilatie culd nocht agre upon na udir  
part all togidder and I desyrit my lords Mortoun  
and Lyndsay with me I agriet to ane short space  
shortlie ther eftir ye quene being in my place  
did maik demission in faferis off  
hir soune ye prynce of ye croun off Scotland  
quhilk I knew nocht quhill ye samyn was doune,  
for<sup>12</sup>

[3 blank lines]

shortlie efter thay prosedit thereupon to ye coronation  
off ye king at Sterling and electit ‘foure’ regents  
according to ye said demission I desyrit at that  
tyme yat nobelatie wald haiff relevit me  
off my burden befor ye corwnation off  
ye king ye quhilk I culd nocht get optenit bot  
gaiff me ane new ordenance as ye samyn be  
beris in it self shortlie ther eftir ye erle  
off Murray returnit fra France send for be  
ye nobilatie and burdenit him with ye  
our gouvment quha did axsep ye samyn be  
ye advis off ye nobilatie & kirk &  
quha was wand [-] dutifull serve to his  
soverane ye king and for ye welfair of  
ye kirk

[15]

quhen ye quene haid bene now by ane 3eir scho  
maid ye moyane to eschaipe quhilk wes ane

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<sup>12</sup> Lochleven thought his trust as the queen’s keeper had been broken by the demission. He took an instrument, see *Registrum Honoris de Mortoun*, i, 26.

off ye gretest displesures yat cam to me ever  
 befor yat day zeit fynding na uder remaid  
 off 'my' greiff bot 'to' cry to my gud god quhom I fand  
 ever my comforter in my trwbills and dowdit  
 nocht thy in to him bot yat is gudnes wal[d]  
 send me comfort according to his loufit kyndnes  
 quhilk certainly I fand sartan ther efter at ye  
 Lang Syd yat my gud god hard my prayers  
 according to my harts desyre quhairby I am oblist  
 for my awane part to render to his M, continuall  
 prays during my liff and quhilk was ye haill kirk  
 off Scotland and prynspally ye king of gra-  
 ses with ye 'king &' haill kirk of Scotland cawss to  
 render thaym maist humble thankis for ye  
 grait [?travaill] yat James erle of Morray with  
 divers udir off ye nobel and did in during  
 ye tyme his regiment as passing to Inland  
 for ye defens off ye king and passing throcht  
 all ye countre in Scotland as suth northe  
 west eist efter nor anis and maid all ye  
 countre in guid obedience<sup>13</sup> towards god & ye  
 king quhilk for my awne part dois agraite-  
 ly thy benefits in speciall towards me

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<sup>13</sup> Letters to Lochleven from Robert Colville of Cleisch give some information on Lochleven's role. One mentions him as a potential keeper of Lord Seton; NLS Ms. 75 f.20 no. 23 [?1569]

Sir efter commendations I resavit 3our letter this Thursday at even & shaw the same to the chamerlan quha is  
 content to do that lyis in him to put fordwart the weill of the causs that is on hand & presentlie bayth to keip the  
 pleggs & presonars that ar in his hands quhill the counsel tak ordor thairwith at thair convention & quhen 3e can  
 nocht weill cum heir for keping of the convention I for my opinion I wald think it meit & 3e suld tary bot ane  
 nycht & syclyk the chalmerlan desyris the sam that 3e suld cum heir & anis shaw 3our self that the toun &  
 countrie mycht understand 3our mening that 3e will shaw 3our self friend to ye chalmerlan and at 3our coming  
 3e will find heir my lady the lard of Pettaro & master Johne Wood, all togeddir 3e may [?[com]unicat] & find  
 sum better order nor 3e can do & 3e meit nocht thair is ernist labour makand be ye secretar & the lard of Grang  
 to have the lord Seton transported & tuiching this heid syclyk it wer guid 3our opinion wer had efter my coming  
 he tuik suspicion heiring be bruit of 3our heir coming & that he wald be deliverit in 3our hands quhair at he tuik  
 ane gret frez qlk I sippen movis him to suit his awin relief the rather & this for desiring 3ow anis to shaw 3our  
 self heir presentlie qlk will do mair guid nor all the wretting 3e can wrett & sa for the present commits 3ow to  
 god fra Sanctandrs this Thursday at evin  
 Be 3ouris Robert Colvill of Cleishe

[16]

and quhen thy serwands and kirk was all at quietnes  
 than Sathan be gud<sup>14</sup> off new to war I mene the enemies  
 to ye king and kirk of Scotland and dedis dewis  
 ye dai the off James erle off Morray and execat  
 ye samyn in Lythkow be ane Hamilton quhilks wes  
 dewisit be tha ~~remanis off they~~ to execut ye samyn  
 taiking ye best occation in ye forsaid toun being  
 in his way as he was passand ye said toun returning  
 fra Dunbardan quhar yat he haid bene doand ye  
 king his M and countre gud service quhat occatioun  
 off sorrow I haid ther by god knawis  
 bot fyndin na udir remaid bot to ryn to thy gud  
 majeste in my trubellis as sone as I hard off ye  
 samyn I past to Striveling to them quha haid ye king in  
 kepin and be ye way maid my maist humble prayis  
 on to thy gudnes prayand thy m yat ther wald be ye  
 protector off thy awn kirk and innocent  
 king quha haid his fadir maist cruellye murtherit  
 haid nocht thy haill kirk off Scotland & in speciall  
 ye kings g[race] hes and thays quhilk war his serwands  
 grait caws to randir thanks on to thy M yat didis  
 muiff ye harts as off ye nobalitie and divers udirs  
 off thy kirk to be na les ernaist in yat gud  
 cawss nor thay war off befor bot rather mony  
 in ways to seik ye just revengement of yat bluid

xvi

sextaine

[17][Regent Lennox]

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<sup>14</sup> 'be gud' – began.

with ye kings & ye defens off ye zong innocent king  
 yat ye samyn was by thy providence defendit and Mathe  
 erle of Lennox gudsire to [?your] king and fadir ye king  
 his fadir murtherit off be foir was send for and cum in  
 na dout be thy providence first maid lewtenant  
 at Sterlewing and sone at Edinburgh maid Regent  
 quha did use him self warray [-] ffra as well  
 towards ye effaires off ye kirk king and countra &  
 his serwands 'and' win the castell off Dunbartoun to ye grait  
 weill off ye kings cawss and therein was taken Jhone  
 Hamilton bishop off Sanctandres enemy to thy kirk  
 & to ye kings [-] quha confessit at his  
 daith off ye knowlaige off ye erle of Murray  
 regents murther and yat he might haiff stayit ye  
 samyn giff he plesit quhow can bot render radie  
 thankis on to thy dewin /m/ for hering my  
 prayer and maikin my pethe to cum to effer  
 and preserwing my hands from blud anents  
 thays quha war enemies to ye said erle off  
 Murray and [?siklyk] ye mater say at thow didis  
 saiff my honour and perser my hand fra blud  
 quhill I may confes was divers tymes over for agait-  
 warts war nocht off thy mersy therto did as preserve  
 ye samyn quhar off I haiff grait occatoion to giff  
 thy /m/ maist humble thanks many thy udir  
 benefits

xvii

[18]

~~was it nocht thow quhilk maid Brechin to [-] sen~~ was it nocht be thy providence yat ye  
 castell of Breichin was win be ane [?prewit] raid<sup>15</sup> quhilk maid ye first stay efter  
 ye erle Murray daithe<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> 10 August 1570,

was it nocht thy gudnes yat deid mak ye erle Mortoun  
 and udir with him to win sarten grait scarmissis  
 in the erle of Lenox regiment the ane betuix  
 Daquaith and Edinburthe ye udir betuix Lyth  
 and Edinburthe and lykwais my lord Lynsay  
 ane being lewtenant in ye tyme off ye parli-  
 ament off Sterlewing bot zeit lord quhen thow  
 art maist fafourable to thy kirk ye dewell thay  
 and his memberis begenis fastest to rage as they  
 deid interit in Edinburth quhilk thay castell  
 and toun war contrair to ye king and deid  
 refok ther fra eftir my lord Murray daithe  
 be resson off ye capitaine and shot off ye samyn  
 cum ther ane company on ye nycht ye erle Huntlie  
 and Glaud Hamilton being prynsippallis with som  
 nyest and [?bocl-] quhar thay war delering  
 nat to slay the erle of Lenox than regent  
 as they deid eftir his taking maist schamfull  
 as was confest be som quhilk was execut thay set  
 fyre at my lord of Mortoun zeit and compellit him  
 [-] and tuik him my lord Glengairne  
 with som udirs bot quhen thay thocht all war  
 ther awane thow diddis provid ane remaid  
 be my lord of Maris servand in the castell  
 at his command didis saiff ye king & re-  
 leiff ye 'regent &' lords hes nocht thy hail kirk & in  
 speciall ye king to render thanks to thy  
 /m/ for your samyn for yat grait wark off [-]

18

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<sup>16</sup> Added in small handwriting at the top of the page. See a similar note on p. 30.

[19] In preserving him sa myraculaisly for giff my lord off  
 Lenox haid nocht died off ye [ʔsout] ye lyk hes nocht bene  
 sene & nocht be thy providence O lord yat  
 muffit ye harts off ye nobelatie and uders to elect  
 Jhon erle of Mar regent for preserving off  
 ye king his /m/ quha haid preserwit him befor ye  
 fra his byrth was it nocht thy gudnes yat  
 didis preserve ye said Jhone all ye tyme  
 off his cowerment and gaiff him and ye rest off  
 nobill men yat watit upon him continuallye ye  
 victorie ovir his enemies and speciallie off ye  
 last [ʔtysdy] scharmiss giff thy gudnes haid nocht  
 bene his protector and defens off yat cawss ye  
 king kirk and countra haid bene all ye  
 wars quhar off the king ye kirk and for  
 my awne part hes continually cawss to giff  
 to thy devine /m/ maist humble thankis was  
 it nocht thy gudnes yat quhen yis said regent past  
 to Hamilton and Glaskow for bringing som disobe-  
 dient peple to obedience & left ye lord Mortoun  
 in Lyth to his returning and be thy gudnes  
 thays yat was in Edinburche quhen they cum forth  
 did nether win vantage at yat tym mair [ʔane]  
 off be for ye erle Mar regent and ye erle  
 Mortoun returnit fra ye west he seiking efter yat  
 all thangs war at rest quhar they war praysit be to  
 to god at quhilk tyme Adam Gordon brodir to  
 ye erle off Huntlie persivid ye letenent  
 for ye king in [b-nd ] bot [ʔna]  
 thanks to thy /m/...

19

[20][the pacification]

thay gat na grait advantaige bot reterit bakwards [ʔhering]

off [?forcis cotening] to Dundie and off ye regent repairing  
 ther with ye erle off Mortoun nocht withstanding yat  
 thay 'he' haid put bak fra Breichen ye forsaid lieutenant  
 no dout bot ye samyn prosedit fra thy gudnes yat didis  
 muff the enemys harts to turne baikwards and ye  
 udirs to cum forwards to Dundie being warray quiet  
 was it nocht thy gudnes O lord yat muffit ye hart  
 off ye enemies to 'agre to ane ~~passification~~ abstinence + ' taik ws and pacification and  
 to aknwlage ye king als [-] + '[margin] & ye toun Edinburgh for [-] bad ye king [-] + ' and  
 did agre to ane pacificatioun with the quene' and yat then  
 erle Mar being regent departit yis lyff to ye  
 eternall [-] in his bed in ye feir off god &  
 yat ye enemies haid no powar to use ther crueltye  
 towards him as thy did to the udir thwa 'twa' regents  
 befor him and to ye king fadir, no doubt bot  
 ye samyn presedit fra thy grait mersy for I as ane  
 off his frynds being ther did than & now dois  
 acknowlage and gif thay /m/ maist humble thanks  
 was it nocht thy providence O lord yat eftir ye daith  
 off ye said Jhon erle off Mar didis muff ye nobelate  
 and udirs to elect James erle Mortoun regent 'at ~~quhilk tyme~~ thy sewand Jhon Knokis didis  
 depart yis present life to thy eternall [-]',<sup>17</sup>  
 quha for ye space off 3eirs did reulle ye countre  
 and common weill in the kings obedience in warray  
 grait peic and quietnes ye forsaid space quha do-  
 is bot ye samyn prosedit from the fountain of thy  
 gudnes and all Scotland hes experience ther  
 off sensyne sen his demitting off ye couvernement  
 at ye tyme yat ye said James resawit his [?contrernement]

2

[21][John Knox eulogy: Morton resigns the regency]

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<sup>17</sup> Inserted in margin.

quha did end his lyff in thy feir efter yat he haid prechit  
 contenyally thay evangell in Scotland the pairt off  
 [blank] 3eir to thy glory and advancement off thy kirk off  
 Scotland and ‘to yat’ evir ther with at idolatorye quha doutis bot  
 ye samyn prosedit off thy gudnes yat nocht withstanding  
 off his banishment tws from his natiffe countra and ye  
 burning off his picture<sup>18</sup> 3eit thow didis maik hym  
 ane steiff instrument off ye setting forthe off thy  
 glory and ye pluckin away off all that quhilk was  
 contrair to thy word and endit his liff ‘in thy feir’ being minister  
 of the evangell in ye prynsipall towne off ye  
 rewelme quha did desyre to exsepit in his  
 roume M James Lawson, may nocht the hail  
 kirk consider quhat victory god did giff his  
 faithfull serwand against all his enemis and ye  
 enemies off his word, O lord quhow grait cawss haid  
 thy kirk to reform and all thais yat war jointit in  
 ye kings action for ye defens off his person and persut  
 off cruell abominable murthir maid against his fadir  
 off ye gud [?seises] geven to ye evangel sen ye  
 begening off religioun on to ye day off my lord  
 Mortoun demitting off his regiment, but thow gud god  
 as thow art ane mersifull god to ye penitent so  
 can nocht put punys quhair thy word is contempt [p-]  
 it (h)is trew as we can nocht deny yat nocht withstanding  
 off the lang crying in till our ears be thy minister  
 quhen thow didest send off thy mersy to call us to  
 repentance we haid never bene effectually muffit  
 be ye samyn to turne to repentance & ther for off  
 varray justice mycht thow vest us with thar  
 plaigs

2i

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<sup>18</sup> ‘picture’ – Lochleven also describes the burning of Knox’s picture in 1558, he may have meant a three-dimensional effigy, the use of the word picture for sculpture is not uncommon.



[22]

for ye manifest contempt of thy mersy sperit to us sa lang  
as swdently did apeir thow wald begin to straik ime-  
diatly efter ye foirsaid demission and yat first be  
ye slarter off my lord chancelair ane guid man  
quhilks prosedit upon ane ~~sudane ineing off my lord~~  
~~erafurd~~<sup>19</sup> sudane accident quhat plaig and punissment off  
thyne hes falling apoun our miserable countre and quhat  
apereis mair to fowlow hes nocht our hail land bene  
desylit with blud from ye ane end to ye udir sensyne  
and quhar fre prosedit ye samyn but for ye wekidnes off  
all estaits yat muffis aganis ane udir be malice  
hatrent sum for ambetion sum for greediness and all  
cheiflie for ye contemp of that word as assurit pleigs off  
thayme + '[*marginal note, see below*]' O lord giff us all grace be ye [?mercy] at ye hiest  
to ye lawest yat we may all truly repent and syn bruik  
thy mersie yat our just deserveit punishment may seis  
Immediatlie upon word of thy serwand Jhone Knox  
did sum yat he doutit nocht bot ye kings caws suld  
prefaill and all thays yat wald so be against him suld  
be over cum or wald resist his kingdom be resson off  
ye murthir off his fadir and yat on to ye tyme yat  
he ofendit god in his awne person, O lord I beseik  
thy gudnes to grant him ane thankfull hart for  
thy grait benefits quhilks he hes resewit at  
thy hand alsweill in preserwation off his person as  
crone apoun his haid and giff him grace to sais fra all  
offencis quhilk may prevoque thy anir aganis him  
and as thow maid thy kirk to 'be' instruments to preserw  
his liff and croune sa yat he may lykwais be cair-  
fall for ye preserwatioun off thy kirk in Scotland

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<sup>19</sup> John Lyons, lord Glamis, Chancellor, was killed by followers of the earl of Crawford in Stirling in 1578.

and be [?enemy] to all ye enemies thar off

2ii

29

[margin] ‘[-] all thais quhilk wes occation off ye allwcation off ye estait quhilk ye king /m/  
haid cum to sextien [-g] consedir giff thay [-] [-] giff ye samyn prosedit wpon malice  
[?without] haiffin [?respet] to ye common will or thir [-] veill’

[23][Esme Stewart, warded beyond Cromarty]

O lord prosedit it nocht from thy jugement to punis ye dis[obed]-  
ead off thy word be ye Devition off yais mekill men  
quhilks war in ye king [?][?] ye gidder and ye  
maist part of them in ye religioun yat muffit them to send  
for [?Martine Abaynay]<sup>20</sup> in France to be ane meinis to acomplis  
ther [?malis] conssevit aganis udirs quhen in warray  
deid was ye king mar frynd giff yat he had [?comp-]  
in to ye intent to haiff shortlie freit ye king estait zefor ye  
wilfair ther off ye kirk and common weill off Scotland  
as towards his religioun be caws he was brocht up ane papist  
& doutit ther off at his in cuming bot as towards ye  
kings estait and cum in I declarit nocht ther off in respect [yer]  
was sa deir on to him self + ‘at quhilk tyme it plesit ye to call to thy mersy my brodir quhilk  
wes thy serwand’ bot shortly efter his cuming  
he gaiff me maist caws to doubt off ye last be his  
persewing for he fowlowit nocht ye wellfeir off ye king  
estait nor zeit off ye hows of Lenox as evidently  
mycht apeir, bot serweit ye derrection off ye hws off  
Guis quhilk tendit mair ye welfair off ye king modir  
nor his estait and ye counsaill quhilks he usit war all  
maist off yat faction as deid will apeir but ye using  
off them quhilk war on ye kings part and contrar hes  
modir as to yat quhilks thay prosedit against James erle

---

<sup>20</sup> Seems to be a stab at Esme sieur d’Aubigny.

in forme of justice I can nocht say bot that cryme desert  
maist vyall punishment giff he was giltie ther of  
bot the eternall god quha knawis all harts knawis  
quhilk thay prosedit be synsser justice or fra malice  
and hatret quhilk thay burne at ye said James I  
meine ether haill memberis off justice syk all yat h-  
enteris ther in for we may nocht juge on udir sulles coms-  
but laiffe ye samyn to him quha hes saye ther off  
but in all yis truble I am nocht forzeit thy luffing favour  
towards me as quhen I was chargit to compeer befor ye  
counsail as I deid quhen thay culd get na raissonable [-]  
to lay to my charges thay ordenit me to fynd [?ordesing]  
apon ane grait sum yat I suld enter in person bezond  
water off Cronmardy with ane warray short day  
2iij

[24][floods, sails to Tarbert, a friend influences the king, warded beyond Dee]

ye quhilks haid nocht bene nocht thy providence culd nocht weil  
haiff performit in respect off ye wadir and ye stop of  
waters yat mycht nocht pas ther be land for efter I  
and my company was stopit and synderit at waters quhen  
I cam to yer water winderne ther culd be na maner off  
passage and seeing ye samyn I past to ye toun [*?place name*]  
and tuik yer ane fychen bot and past our to [?Tarbert] as  
na dout be thy syngulat favour and gudnes quhar off  
I am bund eternallie to rander maist humble thanks  
to thy /m/ as well off ye passage be land as se and  
off ye appy arrival quhar I fand warray grait frynd-  
ship in ye counte and that by ther expectation yat  
ordenit me to pass ther and lykways ye king g[race]  
beir me at all the tyme warray gud will nocht withstanding  
off sum quhilks war about him yat prest him in  
ye contrair quhilks war nocht ther part, na doubt gud lord  
bot ye king gud will towarts me at yat tyme cum

from thy gudnes be muffing his hart and lykways  
 yat my frynd haid acses to remember me on to him at  
 quhilk tyme ther was na thing spoken to ye king off  
 ane bot he declarit to my frynd in[continently] and eftir  
 my lord off Mortoun execution I was wis fred  
 off yat ward and extenit ane lenger ward bezond  
 [?De] in ye quhilk ward I remanit mair nor ane  
 half zeir fyndand always thy favwr towards me  
 to my comfort quhilk thow it muffit ye king hart and ye  
 counsail to grant me libertie and com to my awne [-]  
 quhar off I gaiff thy m humble thanks and now dois ther  
 efter I remanit still in my awne plaice ane lang space  
 on remission quhar many my frynds cum to weshe me  
 welcum my hame, being off mynd nocht to remuiff kept  
 [?hwsshold] quietlie my awne previe affaire bot the O  
 lord quha hes all harts in thy hands  
 ziiij

#### [25][his son joins the Raid of Ruthven]

didis muff ye harts off sum off ye nobilatie and ye kirk  
 to mi[shl] off yeis quhilks war abowt ye king na douts apon  
 ane just occation for ye duc off Lenox was off mynd to  
 haiff put all ye principallis off ye religioun and thays  
 quhilks haid bene trew serwands to ye king in fast  
 ward ye duc of Lenox past to Edinburt to haiff put  
 order to sum things quhilk was [d-] in Edinburt to  
 = M Robert Montgomery his bishop off Glasgow at quhilks tyme  
 off his absence my lords Glencairne Gowry Mar and divers  
 udirs that to hald ye said duc fra ye king quhar apon  
 my lord off Mar cum to my place from Stirleng &  
 desirit me with his L to Rewen quhar ye king was  
 quhilk I aluter refusit exsept it haid bene ye kings  
 gud will in respect off yis onlyknes off ye purpos  
 udir wais but be resson my lord off Mar in so far by

his way to haiff haid me with this I did ane stay me  
 soune quha wes beand to pass with him at quhilks efter [-]  
 off James Stewart erle off Arrane is taken and yat ye  
 foirsaid lord and kirk haid ‘urtuall’ optenit ye king yat will &  
 yat he wald be content thay suld laiff his company be  
 in send for be ye ‘my’ lord off ‘Mar’ I past to Sainct Jonston with  
 my gud soune and ther endit ane apointment betuix  
 ye erle Gowry and him quha was be for at war[ne]  
 and ther eftir past to Stirlewing with ye king and ye  
 rest quhair ther was ane nother band maid amongs all  
 ye nobell men off ye regioun and mony baronis &  
 and ye haill menisters in all perts past with ye  
 said band to all yer countrais quhar apon ye duc  
 off Lenox was muffit to laiff Scotland and ye king  
 and haill etaits died<sup>21</sup> fynd ye samyn gud service  
 was dunne bot as aperit well sensyne ye king was  
nocht content with yat<sup>22</sup> bot giff the nobill men haid haldin  
 fast at ther mark quhilk tha be guded anenst my  
 lord of Arran be aperance the kirk and nobill men  
 and countre haid bene at ane better point

25

[26][Earl of Gowry on his knees]

for som of ye prynsipall begeners of yat mater socht pardon  
 at ye king is imediattly ‘at Sanct Jonston’ and did promis frayndship to  
 the said erle off Arran by the rest of yer Marr wes at  
 Sterlewing quha be yat menis optenit prevelaige to  
 remain In Keneill and remanit ther quhill on ye  
 tyme he fand ye menis be Colonnell Stewart to draw ye

<sup>21</sup> News of the death of Duke reached Edinburgh on 5 June 1583, sent to Lochleven by Robert Colville, NLS Ms. 75 no.22: ‘... thair is ane bruit in this toun that that the duik suld be deid bot zit we have nocht hard the contrir man, the clerk of register is to be in coupir in fyff on Saturday nixt & myndis & if he dow possibilly win to com & speik with zow in his returning tuiching the mat[er] he referit to him & me for the lard of Towy I sall meit him as I appoyntis me And this with my hartle comendation commits zow to god fra Edinburgh this thurisdai the v of Junj, Yrs at his power R Colvill of Cleische’

<sup>22</sup> These words encircled with pen.

king to his efter quhilk Crownall cam in, writ to ye  
 king ondir ye wrtings of the lords quhilks enterprysit  
 ye raid of Ruthven quhair in thay war nocht wis as weill  
 yat as ye favor that sum died shaw to ye erle off  
 Arran by ther marowis fra yat was ye occation undir  
 god yat the king deid mak ye alteration at Sanctandres  
 at quhilk tyme I was passand norwards with my dochter  
 to hir hows with her gud man hering off ye alteration  
 I was desyrit be som syndrie to com bakwards to Sanctandres  
 quhilks sould me for divers ressons shortlie efter  
 being in my gud sones plaice hering my lord off  
 Gowry haid syd down on his kneis and desyred  
 pardon off ye king ther cum ane charge for me [*margin note here: two words*]  
 charging me to enter beyond ye water of Nes under  
 ye paine off rebellion and ane uder to deliver my  
 placis quhilk all war obeit, shortlie efter I being in  
 Ross notwithstanding of my obedience thay war off  
 pourpos to giff me ane nother charge to compeir befor  
 ye counsaill super in commandis ye quhilk charge ane  
 frynd off myne optenit he be supersedit quhilk wald  
 returnit bakwart fra me giff I wald be content to  
 giff to Crouner Stewart ye ward and marriage off my  
 brodir soun and I suld haiff all ye fryndship off court  
 ye quhilk I for nawayes off contened nor kyndnes  
 I cowlde for I wald nocht by ye fryndship off [-]  
 26

[27][*evades warding in Inverness, takes ship*]

with the hurt of my cautionar and broder haiving and to my grait  
 dishonor, but gaiff ane flat anser I wald nocht with ye [*?grace*]  
 of my lord god sa lang as I haid liff bot expit in  
 god yat he wald 'not' laiff 'me' as often tymes I haid fand his par-  
 doun of befor, shortlie eftir ye returne off my ansir  
 thay send ane nothir charge to me to entir my person

In ward within ye castell of Innerness under ye paine  
 off horning nochtwithstanding I being be northe ye samyn  
 in for ward being far fra my frynds to haiff ther  
 openzon quhilk was ane grait strait to me to entir  
 in yat hws for divers respects as ar nesar to ye said  
 [-] and nocht to entir I thocht it ane greter strait nocht  
 by my pryncis charge quhar yat I haid  
 bene ever maist willing and effectionat to his service  
 nyxt my dwtie to my god be for all things in ye  
 quhilks I never parit to hassart my liff and sp-  
 my pains to ye uter maist off my powar and wes ther-  
 for off mynd to entir be my awne jugement and being weil  
 nar ye plaice ‘& [?ane]’ off my [?enter-] aproching ther cum ane man in  
 ye [?close/street] to me apon fyt send be my wiff to me be ye  
 advar off said udir frynds and gaiff ane express counsaill nocht  
 to entir exsep I wald wilfully giff my lyff and sa  
 I turnit ane udir way and did commit my self on such  
 mychte [pro[m]seping] and fand thy eternall favoure with  
 ane quha didis send me ye advertisement quhilk I  
 onderstud since be ye mainis off ane [?drwing] man fra  
 the wildest countra in Scotland yat died cum to me in sa  
 short ane spaice sa lang ane way and to cum nocht thow [-]  
 be for ye tyme quhilk I [per]sevit to be off thy gudnes  
 towards me undesservit quhar off I am bund eternally  
 giff thy /m/ maist humble thanks as lykways in [-]  
 off me all yat mycht and in ye mainis off  
 optaning off ane bot ye nixt nicht quhair I past ane  
 way be so in ye litle ane vessel haiffand bot  
 ane plaid to our sells and off ye happ  
 off ye [?Ros/rest] off Morray befoir ye [?co]-  
 rais      zvii

[28][*in a wilderness where houses are built from turf*]

quhar we lay at ane ancor off thar stanis ondir ly off  
ye said ‘cost’ quhill ye ‘[-]’ he gave to change it being verray grait  
yat we suld nocht remain ether the maister off ye bot  
inquirit giff I wald pas with ye wind for it was  
nocht possible ly langar ther I was content as he pasit  
quhar we passit with the wind it being verray grait  
and lang way and landit appelye betwixt tua grai-  
in ye se syd quhair ther was nether hws nor  
toun yat mycht se us exsep hirs quhar off thy  
I did giff thy /m/ maist humble thanks nocht doutant  
lykways bot at lenth thow wald brying ws to yat  
landing place quhilks thow he preparit for thy serw  
ands eftir yat we haid passit thraw yis vaill off  
meserye I remanit be syd ye[-] quhil ye  
glowring off ye nycht at quhilk tyme I passit ane  
sertaine tyme trawaling being on sertaine quhair  
to taik login quhill we cam to ane swbir hws quhair  
their was nochther stane nor lym and all ye wallis  
begit with awthe always we gat sufficient repast  
fra ane gud wiff was it nocht thow gud god yat  
didis [-] all ye way betuix yat and find at  
to awekint be in quhilk ane ... quhilkis + [-]  
It plesit ‘god to muiff’ the king & counsaill be ye menis  
sum of ye mynisters and said barones yat did  
and optane ane dispensatioun for my nocht entering in  
ward and ane [-] to pass fra ye countre quhilk  
thay grantit to conform yat I suld  
fynd caution under ye panis of xx thowsand pundis  
to retyre me furth off ye countre off Scotland Ingland  
and Irland betuix yer ane last day of Dissember  
and thes efter extenit ane new [-] to ye xx day  
off Januar nixt and yat I suld remaine with ane bands  
my awn hws quhill ye said day



[margin, 28] quhar we did [-] exsep the [-ment] off thar word quhilks watit fra myne entering in ward [-] cum to Duns & ther was ye [exs-] off ye falt bot all ye tyme I fand thy confort at ye [p-] davidis hand

[margin 28] quhar we did [-] nothing exsep the [-] out off thar ward quhilk watit fra myne entering in ward [-] cum to Duns

[29][at La Rochelle]

thay ressetting with my selff quhilk countre I wald drect me  
 I to [-] pas to thais parts quhar the religioun was [-]  
 techit and reformat be resson I haid na langage yat  
 understood exsep ye French I desyrit my self to cum [?d-]  
 to ye Rochell quhar I onderstod ye regioun was ther nane  
 at [-] in ony part of France swa I imberkit ye  
 xvijj day of January at Ferre fornent Dunde quhen  
 I was ane moneth apon ye se in ane warray  
 laik vessell for our peins war ewerye our p[-]  
 in ye ferrie twenty ouris bot prysit be to god [I]  
 said all the tyme prayers twys in ye day & qu[hen]  
 our marinellis and landit at ye Rochell ye xv day  
 off february quhar off I did render to thy m my  
 humble and hartlie thanks for ye preserwing us  
 and happy arryvaille, quhair I did fynde ye word  
 off god praychit and sacraments mynisterit [?nather]  
 mor my expectation bot mekle mair for I  
 haiff haid daylie preching and ye [?sacents] myn[?ster]  
 at ye supper off ye lord everye quhairfor quhar  
 off I haiff experienced off ane 3eir and mair  
 thanks be to thy devine /m/ yat sen It hes  
 plasit thy gudnes yat I am furthe off my nativ  
 countra yat hes with faiffull on me thy onworthy cre-  
 atur to be perticipant off syk excellant bondship

as to hir syk notable serwants of thyne daylie  
and administration off thy sacraments eftir as I  
haid bene at my awne hws or countre quhar off  
I haiff grait caws to rejois and therfor dois giff  
thy gudnes all lawd and prays be spoken the maist  
humble never suffer me to fall to seik onkynd-  
nes as to forzeit thir thy benefeits bot rather

[30][end]

yat thy may 'be' ane space to me eternall to depend  
apon thy gudnes in tymes to cum in full assurance  
yat thow wilbe my lord my god & protector in ye  
mercies off thy derlie belovit sounie Jesus Crist all  
ye rest off ye houres off my pelerynage ontill thow  
call me to yat eternall kyngdome quhar off I  
doubt nocht I [?with] thy sounie Jesus Cryst ...

[*space*]

+ was it nocht thy gudnes lykways yat muffit ye regent erle of Lenox and ye nobilatie and  
barones with him to pas to Bryschen and ther [-] ye [-] Brechen and put ye [-] for ye quene to  
[-] and did execut divers off ye kepars off yat place and stepill theroff quhilk maid ye fyrst  
[-] off ye enemies for ye erle moray in [-]<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> See a similar note at the top of page 18.