

Letter from Mary Queen of Scots to the Laird of Smeaton written from Carlisle on 25 June 1568

The Lard of Smytoun etc

Rycht traist freind, we wryte to zow laitylly anent our procedingis than, thanking zow ay off zour constance and fidelitey anent ws and our seruice quhilk ze sall not repent, wyth goddis grace not doubting bott ze will continew tharin wythout feir other of our ennemeis or tinsell off guiddisfor to the ane we sall putt ordour godwilling belyve and the other we sall refound and wpsett ze evin to the leist d.

The last imbassadour departit fray ws the xxii of this instant and gettis his answer fray the quein at his bypassing. Giff scho uill not assist ws we sall have bayth men & money of France incontenent . We luk also schortly for our answer becaus Middilmvre on quhayis returning fray the erle off Murray it was delayit passit by heir wp throucht the xxiiij of this instant.

We have in the meintyme gottin be chance sum wrytingis off our ennemeis quhilkis discoveris ony thingis especialy quhow sindry of the courte of Inglan and counsell promesis the erle of Murray all kyndnes aganis ws quhilkis wryt ingis quhowson the quein seis (for we have send thame to the lord Hereis to that effect) we ar assurit scho wilbe and offendit ze abill remove thame fray forder melling wyth our afairies. This referring our service to zour faythfullnes we committ zow to the protection off god almychttye.

At Carlislye the xxv of Junii 1568.

Marie R