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## The St Mary's Heritage Project

Letters from the Rev. David Lyon, 1764.

SOURCE:

*Papers of the Scottish Episcopal Church in the National Archive of Scotland.*

[RGE, 2009]

To the Right Reverend Mr William Falconer.  
 (To be left at the shop of Mr David Nevay, Merchant,  
 North side of the Cross, Edinburgh.)

Glasgow, May 30<sup>th</sup> 1764

Most Reverend Sir

You may remember I have several times talked with you about the desolate state of this part of the Church. For ought I know there has been never a Bishop of our Communion, since the death of the Right Reverend Bishop Duncan (which I am apt to think may be 30 years ago) who has performed his function in it. So, it must be imagined there is great want of one to supply the defects that have arisen upon that account. Since my coming to this congregation I imagined I might have had the happiness of seeing your Reverence, or one of your Right Reverend colleagues in this place long before now, and then I intended that the above defects should be supplied.

Let me therefore, with all submission, beg, of your Reverence as Primus, the favour of a visit immediately after Whitsunday (for I must set out for the South Country on Tuesday or Wednesday after Trinity Sunday) in order that those that had never the benefit of Confirmation may receive it from your hands.

It is not my intention by this, Most Reverend Sir, to put you to any inconveniency with respect either to your health or any other consideration, far be this from me! So, if it be not convenient for you to come at that time, be pleased at least to communicate this my request to your colleague and my good friend, Bishop Forbes in Leith who, I dare venture to say, will upon your desire not grudge to gratify it. I know him full well to imagine he would come upon my writing him, I am sure he would not. If, therefore, you cannot come, be pleased to use your interest with him. The compliance of either of you will effectuate my design, *salvo jure cujus libet*.

I beg your prayers and benediction, and expecting to hear from you. I am, Most Reverend Sir, your most humble servant and obedient son,

Da. Lyon.

*Written on the same page in a different hand.*

To the Right Reverend Bishop Forbes at Leith.

Leith, June 9<sup>th</sup> 1764

Right Reverend Dr Sir

As it is not convenient for me to go to Glasgow at the time which Mr Lyon desires, I beg you will be so good, if it is not inconvenient for you, to gratify his request, which will oblige.

Right Reverend Sir, your affectionate brother,  
 Will Falconer.

To the Reverend Mr Robert Forbes in Leith.

Glasgow, June 6<sup>th</sup> 1764

Right Reverend Sir

I had the favour of your's yesterday, and am much obliged to you for your compliance with the desire of the Right Reverend Primus. I should have been glad, had it been convenient, for yourself to have come this length; but since his authority still takes place, there can be no room for objections.

I shall take it as a favour if you come straight to my house, where breakfast shall be waiting you. Next Lord's Day afternoon I shall, God willing, discourse to my people on the nature etc., of Confirmation, and acquaint them publicly of their having the opportunity of having the Divine favour conferred upon them against such a day, when they and I shall have, I hope, a happy meeting with one of our Right Reverend Fathers.

My respects to the Primus, and my compliments to Mrs Forbes, and begging your prayers and Benediction. I am, Right Reverend Sir, your most humble servant and obedient son,

Da: Lyon.

Pray drop me a line before you come.