Dear King Edward I,

It is imperative I tell you our great nation is in need of your leadership. England is at a time of oppression and we must demonstrate to our neighbor states we are a powerful country that does not shy away from conflict. Both Wales and Ireland are rightfully under our control and it is now time to show the Scots who their true leader is; you are the rightful lord paramount of England and Scotland.

Internationally, our relationship with France is growing increasingly hostile. We must achieve a greater influence over Scotland to strengthen the authority of your throne, and to show France we are still strong enough to defend what is rightfully ours. This will help you yield power beyond what Henry III achieved, and quite down ridiculous rumours of unrest and doubt with your rule. Establishing long-term peace by fostering a powerful national image is vital; not only will it reduce taxes and make the lords happier, but it will allow for a prosperous English empire, and the elimination of both internal and external threats. We have to act strong in this time of growing nationalism among the Scots, and choose a ruler most likely to listen to England’s concerns.

Serving in your council as the legal advisor, I have discovered that our country’s superior judicial system will benefit the barbarian Scots become more civilized. This implementation will not only accustom them to our sophisticated order of society, but our culture as well. As the Chief Justice of England, I shall happily be a frontrunner spreading the magnificence of our law system, and persecuting criminals that disturb your rule. Even if Scotland foolishly refuses to accept your recommendations, military conflict will quickly lead to our victory and peace shall be restored soon. It is similarly important to educate our young people to think patriotically and bear true allegiance to your majesty. I am currently writing a book that explains the study and evolution of law to young students. I am your best point of contact to reform education and to generate leaders that understand the threats we are facing, why it is imperative to spread our influence over the Scots, and how our laws should change to adapt to these challenges.

I have also established intimate relationships with religious people of high importance. Being educated by the Church, my relations with them have been extensive, continuous, and remunerative from the very beginning. I have held fourteen benefices and was appointed the Canon of a Church. If peaceful negotiations do not work and we are forced to choose military action, I will use my influence in the church to explain and justify the necessity of our actions.

Whatever you choose to do in the upcoming months, I will support you. I am obliged to safeguard the welfare of your realm, and to administer the just laws of England as you wish. I strongly suggest that you heed my suggestions and implement them into your decisions.

Your humble servant,

Sir Ralph de Hengham,

English Chief of Justice