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Galba, B. X. 338. B. M.  
[May 1531]

248. [CROMWELL] to STEPHEN VAUGHAN.

Have received your letters dated Antwerp, 18 April, and that part of Tindal's book enclosed in leather, which you directed with your letters to the King. Presented it to the King, who said that he would read it and your letters at leisure. At my next repair thither he declared to me the contents of your letters, and much of the matter contained in Tindall's book. **He was right well pleased with your diligence in sending the book, and in persuading Tindall to come to England, but he nothing liked the book, which was filled with seditious and slanderous lies and fantastical opinions, showing therein neither learning nor truth. He thought you bore much affection towards Tyndale, whose manners and knowledge in worldly things' ye much commend, but his book shows that he lacks grace, virtue, learning, discretion, and all good qualities, nothing else pretending in all his works but to seduce, deceive, and sow sedition among the people of England.** The King, therefore, commands you to desist from persuading Tyndale to come into England, for he has no hope of reconciliation in him, and is very joyous to have his realm destitute of such a person, rather than that [he] should return here to manifest his errors and seditious opinions, which he has partly done already by his uncharitable, venomous, and pestilent books. The King considers that if he were present he would probably do what he could to infect and corrupt the whole realm, to the great inquietation and hurt of the commonwealth. I therefore pray you to show yourself the King's true and obedient subject, bearing no favor, love, or affection to the said Tyndale nor his works, but utterly to contemn and abhor them, which will cause the King to set you forwards. By doing the contrary you will acquire the indignation of God, and the displeasure of the King, and cause your friends, who have been ready to bring you into his favor, to lament that their suit should be frustrate. I have firm trust that you will beware to enter into any opinions whereby any slander, dishonesty, danger, or suspicion might ensue towards you, of which I should be as sorry as your natural father. [114]

**Touching Frith**, whom you mention in your letters, the King laments that he should apply his learning in sowing the seeds of damnable heresies, and maintaining the venomous and pestiferous works, erroneous and seditious opinions of Tyndale and others, but he **trusts that he is not so inrooted** in these evil doctrines but that, by the grace of God and the exhortation of good people, he **may be called to the right way**. He, therefore, desires you to advise him to renounce his wilful opinions, and, like a good Christian, **return into his native country, where he will find the King mercifully disposed**. I, therefore, exhort you to withdraw your affection from Tyndale and all his sect, and **politically and charitably to allure Frith**, and all those in those parts whom you know to be his fautors and assistants, from their erroneous minds and opinions. By so doing you will highly merit of Almighty God, and deserve high thanks of the King, who will not forget your labor, if he perceives that you effectually intend it.

The King thanks you for your diligent advertisement of the number of ships arrived with corn and grain in those parts, and wishes you to find out the masters, servants, owners, or others who sold the grain, so that by the examination of some he may have knowledge of the rest. He wishes also to have news of the Emperor's affairs, the descent of the Turk into Germany, the preparations against him, the gift of money in the Low Countries to the Emperor, the abiding of the Emperor there, and the agreement between him and the princes of Germany.

*Draft, corrected by Cromwell, pp. 7.*