65. STEPHEN VAUGHAN to HENRY VIII.

My mind continually labours to attain the knowledge of what your Majesty commands me to learn and practise, but I am often dismayed by mischances which obviate my labour. Wrote three letters to William Tyndall, directed to Frankforde, Hanborough, and Marleboroughe, not knowing in which place he was. Had heard in England that he would go thither on your Majesty’s promise and safe conduct, and hoped that my promise that my friends should labour to obtain any reasonable surety for his safe going and returning would induce him to go; but the bruit of what has lately happened in England has provoked him to the contrary, and made him suspect that my persuasions would lead him to greater danger than he would have need to fear, considering your benignity and piteous regard for your subjects. Sends Tyndall’s answer to his letter, and a copy of his answer to some other person. Can neither get a copy of his answer to More, for which Fitzwilliam wrote, nor ascertain whether it is published.

Is detained at home during the marts, and has less chance of hearing news.

The Emperor entered Brussels the 25th inst., where he remaineth to this day. Barrugh, 26 Jan. 1530.

ii. The above is a copy sent to Cromwell, with the following addition:—

You see my rudeness and inability to be a writer to so great a Prince, but his gracious benignity encourages me so to do. I pray you to wait to deliver it at a time when his Highness will immediately look at it, for then you can excuse any faults therein. I send a copy of one of Tyndall’s letters; the other I had not time to copy. Mr. Lok will give you the dialogues of Okham. It is unlikely Tyndall will go to England, as he daily hears news thence which frightens him. After his book in answer to my Lord Chancellor is put forth, I think he will write no more. The man is of a greater knowledge than the King takes him for, as appears by his works. Would God he were in England! I cannot sell your spermaceti. It is in manner nothing worth. I am going to Lovayne in two days, to stay all Lent, and apply to my book. I pray you help me to be quiet. Clarendon will never pay me unless you help me. Barrugh, 26 Jan.

Hacket is gone or intending to go to England. Commend him to the King, who will not get in 40 years a man to handle his matters here so substantially, nor one who can do more in these parts than he. He is exceedingly well entertained and beloved by all the great men of these parts, which he has purchased by his wisdom, his gentle humanity, and great cost and charge. I have been exceedingly well entertained by him, which does not move me to praise him so much as his virtues.

Hol., pp. 3. Add.: To his right worshipful master, Master Thomas Cromwell in London.