

CHARLES

I.

1627.

King Charles to the Duke of Buckingham.

Steenie,

BEECHER staying longer at the sea side than I expected, has given me this occasion of writing to you, which I do, rather to assure you, that upon all occasions I am glad to remember you, and that no distance of place, nor length of time, can make me slacken, much less diminish my love to you, than that I have any business to advertise you of. I know too, that this is nothing, it being nothing but what you know already; yet imagining that we (like usurers) love sometimes to look on our riches, I think it is not unacceptable to you to bid you look of that that I esteem to be the greatest riches, and now hardest to be found, true friendship, there being no stile justlier to be given to any man, than that to me of being

August 25.

Your faithful, &c.

Aldershot,
25th of August, 1627.

CHARLES, R.

King Charles to the Duke of Buckingham.

Steenie,

HAVING received a letter from you by this bearer, I cannot let him return empty; and indeed I should much condemn myself, if I did let any occasion slip, without remembering my love to you. At this time I have not much to say, but to congratulate with you for your escape from that treacherous blow * which was meant you;

Sept. 2.

* The treacherous blow which the king mentions to have been intended the Duke, was an assassination attempted by a French papist or Jesuit, with a thick three-edged knife. And a narrative thereof was published in a 4to pamphlet, as soon as the Duke came home, with a representation of the said knife in a wooden print.

for