

“which We had written to You very affectionately at the beginning of Our Pontificate, so
 “that We might know that You had become reassured of Our particular goodwill toward
 “Your Highness. Next, because We learnt from the same Paul Simon, Our son, that You
 “were in good health and that all Your affairs were prospering and fortunate and that all
 “that concerns the war, which You are boldly and sturdily waging with Our common
 “enemies, was proceeding propitiously. Lastly, because We above all else desire that You
 “should gain confidence in Our people, and deeply deplore that it had been for some time
 “somewhat taken away from them. But We give endless praise to Almighty God, by Whose
 “providence it has come about that the same Paul Simon and his brethren opportunely
 “arrived and were able to remove all suspicions from Your mind. For, as they have
 “informed Your Highness and We by Our letters have notified You, Our plans and exertions
 “are directed towards uniting the arms of Our very dear sons, the Christian kings and
 “princes, against the ungodly and barbarous Ottoman tyrant. Therefore You can under-
 “stand sufficiently from these facts how falsely it had been reported to You that We or Our
 “sons, the princes of Christendom, are unmindful of what is being done in the East. Indeed,
 “if We had been allowed to enjoy greater peace and quietness from the commotions, which
 “have recently been stirred up in these parts, perchance You would have had up to now
 “some plainer sign of the ardent desire, which We have of seeing at long last repressed the
 “fierceness and boldness of the savage Ottoman wild beasts, who have laid waste in the
 “East the vineyard of the Lord, that is to say the Church of the faithful. But that which so
 “far We have been very little able to effect We hope, with the assistance of the Divine mercy,
 “will be accomplished in a short time, particularly since We have been much more kindled
 “and inflamed by Your letters to wage so needful and godly a war. Wherefore We have
 “desired, as soon as We could, to inform Your Highness so that You may pursue the more
 “keenly the campaign You have commenced against Our common enemies. As to what
 “concerns the incidents at Hurmuz, about which You complained to Us in Your letters,
 “We sent for that reason Our beloved son Paul Simon with Our letters to Our very dear
 “son in Christ Philip, king of the Spains, whom We strongly urged to see that peace be
 “kept by every kind of courtesy and the mutual goodwill that exists between us, and also
 “that not only the cause but every occasion for dispute, which might arise in any way, should
 “be removed: and from his obligingness and good sense We promise ourselves that all will be
 “done as desired.

“It was most welcome news to Us that You are about to send to Us, so you write, an
 “ambassador. We shall certainly receive him with very great pleasure and treat him with
 “honour, as is proper. In like manner We are thinking to send to Your Highness an envoy,
 “who will inform You of Our love for You, and of the wish We have of strengthening Your
 “friendship with Our most dear sons, the Christian kings and princes, and of the zeal
 “with which We strive to content You, as far as God shall permit, in those matters which
 “Paul Simon by Your instructions has transacted with Us. Meanwhile You will receive
 “these signs from Us of the especial kindness, with which We uniquely honour Your High-
 “ness, from Our beloved sons, the devout and godly men, John and Vincent, who have
 “remained in Persia by Our orders, and whom We earnestly recommend to You, and with
 “them also the bearers of these letters, Our beloved sons, friars of the same Order of
 “Discalced Carmelites, Redempt and Benignus, who just as they profess the same rule of
 “life, so, We hope, will show that they are endowed with equal zeal, devotion and the
 “adornment of Christian virtue. Each of them will be able to inform You, whenever it
 “should happen that You doubt the genuineness of Our letters (if by chance You should
 “receive any before Our ambassador can reach Your Highness): they know the seal of the
 “Fisherman’s ring and are worthy of confidence. We pray God constantly that He may
 “illuminate Your mind with the light of the Holy Spirit, by which raised to the contemplation
 “of His eternal and flawless beauty You may become kindled with the love of Him and
 “share in His ineffable mercy, and at the same time that the heavenly aid will favour Your
 “victorious arms to the glory of His most holy Name. Given at S. Peter’s, Rome, under the