

me how to improve the advantage of my place and to keep off Barlow. To my Lord's till late at night, and so home.

★ JULY ★

1. This morning came home my fine Camlott cloak with gold buttons – and a silk suit; which cost me much money and I pray God to make me be able to pay for it. I went to the cook's and got a good joint of meat, and my wife and I dined at home alone. In the afternoon to the Abbey, where a good sermon by a stranger, but no Common Prayer yet.

2. Infinite of business, that my heart and head and all was full. Met with Purser Washington, with whom and a lady, a friend of his, I dined at the Bell Taverne in King's street; but the rogue had no more manners then to invite me thither and to let me pay my club. All the afternoon with my Lord, going up and down the town. At 7 at night he went home, and there the Principall officers of the Navy;¹ among the rest, myself was reckoned one. We had order to meet tomorrow to draw up such an order of the Council as would put us in action before our patents were passed – at which my heart was glad. At night supped with my Lord, he and I together in the great dining-room alone by ourselfs, the first time that ever I did it in London. Home to bed. My maid pretty well again.

3. All the morning, the officers and commissioners of the Navy, we met at Sir G. Carteret's chamber and agreed upon orders for the Council to supersede the old and impower us to act. In the afternoon my heart was quite pulled down by being told that Mr. Barlow was to enquire today for Mr. Coventry. But at night I met with my Lord, who told me that I need not fear, for he would get me the place against the world. And when I came to W. Howe, he told me that Dr. Petty hath been with my Lord and did tell him that Barlow was a sickly man and did not intend to execute the place for himself; which put me in great comfort again. Till 2 in the morning writing letters and things for my Lord to send to sea. So home to my wife to bed.

1. The Principal Officers of the Navy Board (at this time the Treasurer, Comptroller, Surveyor, Clerk of the Acts and three Commissioners).