

sermon; and so home and after walking about the house a while, discoursing with my wife, I to my office, there to set down something and prepare businesses for tomorrow – having in the morning read over my vowes, which through sickness I could not do the last Lord's day, and not through forgetfulness or negligence; so that I hope it is no breach of my vowe not to pay my forfeiture. So home, and after prayers to bed – talking long with my wife and teaching her things in Astronomy.

21. Up and to the office, where Sir John Minnes (most of the rest being at the Parliament-house); all the morning [an]swering petitions and other business. Towards noon there comes a man in, as if upon ordinary business, and shows me a Writt from the Exchequer, called a Comission of Rebellion,¹ and tells me that I am his prisoner – in Fields business. Which methought did strike me to the heart, to think that we could not sit safe in the middle of the King's business. I told him how and where we were employed and bid him have a care; and perceiving that we were busy, he said he would and did withdraw for an houre – in which time Sir J. Minnes took coach and to Court to see what he could do from thence; and our Sollicitor against Field came by chance and told me that he would go and satisfy the fees of the Court and would end the business. So he went away about that, and I stayed in my closet, till by and by the man and four more of his fellows came to know what I would do; I told them stay till I heard from the King or my Lord Chief Baron, to both whom I had now sent. With that they consulted and told me that if I would promise to stay in the house they would go and refresh themselves, and come again and know what answer I had. So they away and I home to dinner – whither by chance in comes Mr. Hawly and dined with me. Before I had dined, the Baylys came back again with the Constable, and at the office knock for me but found me not there; and I hearing in what manner they were come, did forbear letting them know where I was. So they stood knocking and enquiring for me. By and by at my parlour-window comes Sir W. Batten's Mingo to tell me that his Maister and Lady would have me come to their house through Sir J. Mennes's lodgings, which I could not do; but however, by lathers did get over the pale between our yards and so to their house, where

1. A writ used to secure the appearance of defendant. For the case, see above, p. 190 (13 April) & n.