

not out. After dinner at home, to Whitehall, it being a very rainy day. And there a Committee for Tanger, where I was mightily pleased to see Sir W. Coventry fall upon my Lord Bellasses's business of the 3*d*. in every piece of eight, which he would get to himself, making the King pay 4*s*.–9*d*. while he puts them off for 4*s*.–6*d*. – so that Sir W. Coventry continues still the same man for the King's good. But here Creed did vex me with saying that I ought first to have my account passed by the Commissioners of Tanger before in the Exchequer. Thence, W. Coventry and I in the Matted Gallery to talk; and there he did talk very well to me about the way to save the credit of the Officers of the Navy, and their places too, by making use of this intervall of Parliament to be found to be mending of matters in the Navy, and that nothing but this will do it; and gives an instance in themselves of the Treasury, whereof himself and Sir Jo. Duncome all the world knows have enemies, and my Lord Ashly a man obnoxious to most, and Sir Tho. Clifford one that, as a man suddenly rising and a creature of my Lord Arlington's, hath enemies enough (none of them being otherwise but the Duke of Albemarle); yet with all this fault, they hear nothing of the business of the Treasury, but all well spoken of there. He is for the removal of Sir J. Mennes, thinking that thereby the world will see a greater change in the hands then now they do. And I will endeavour it, and endeavour to do some good in the office also. So home by coach and to the office, where ended my letters and then home; and there got Balty to read to me out of Sorbiere's observations in his voyage into England; and then to bed.

20. Up and with Coll. Middleton in a new coach he hath made him, very handsome, to Whitehall; where the Duke of York having removed his lodgings for this year to St. James's, we walked thither and there find the Duke of York coming to Whitehall; and so back to the Council chamber, where the Committee of the Navy sat, and here we discoursed several things; but Lord, like fools, so as it was a shame to see things of this importance managed by a Council that understand nothing of them. And among other things, one was about this building of a ship with Hemskirkes secret, to sail a third faster than any other ship; but he hath got Prince Rupert on his side, and by that means I believe will get his conditions made better then he would otherwise, or ought indeed. Having done there, I met with Sir Rd. Browne and he took me to dinner with him to a new tavern above Charing cross, where some Clients of his did give him