

but to the Tower – this being done only in contempt to him. This news of Sir W. Coventry did strike me to the heart; and with reason, for by this and my Lord of Ormond's business, I do doubt that the Duke of Buckingham will be so fleshed, that he will not stop at anything but be forced to do anything now, as thinking it not safe to end here; and Sir W. Coventry being gone, the King will have never a good counsellor, nor the Duke of York any sure friend to stick to him – nor any good many will be left to advise what is good. So meeting with my Lord Bellasses, he told me the particulars of this matter; that it arises about a quarrel which Sir W. Coventry had with the Duke of Buckingham about a design between him and Sir Rob. Howard to bring him into a play at the King's House. Being very much troubled at this, I away by coach homeward, and directly to the Tower, where I find him in one Mr. Bennet's house, in the Bricke tower – where I find him busy with my Lord Halifax and his brother; so I would not stay to interrupt them, but only to give him comfort and offer my service to him; and so I parted, with great content that I had so early seen him there; and so going out, did meet Sir Jer. Smith going to meet me, who had newly been with Sir W. Coventry; and so he and I by water to Redriffe, and so walked to Deptford, where I have not been I think these twelve months; and there to the Treasurer's house, where the Duke of York is, and his Duchesse; and there we find them at dinner in the great room, unhung, and there was with them my Lady Duchess of Monmouth, the Countess of Falmouth, Castlemayne, Henrietta Hide my Lady Hinchingbrooke's sister, and my Lady Peterbrough. And after dinner, Sir Jer. Smith and I were invited down to dinner with some of the Maids of Honour; *viz.*, Mrs. Ogle, Blake, and Howard (which did me good to have the honour to dine with and look on); and the Mother of the Maids, and Mrs. Howard, the mother of the Maid of Honour of that name, and the Duke's housekeeper here. Here was also Monsieur Blancfort, Sir Rd. Powell, Coll. Villers, Sir Jona. Trelany, and others. And here drank most excellent and great variety and plenty of wines, more then I have drank at once these seven years, but yet did me no great hurt. Having dined and very merry, and understanding by Blancfort how angry the Duke of York was about their offering to send Savill to the Gate-house among the rogues and talking of others as their enemies – they parted; and so we up, and there I did find the Duke of York and Duchesse with all the great ladies, sitting upon a carpet on the ground, there being no