

24. Up pretty betimes; and so there comes to me Mr. Shish to desire my appearing for him to succeed Mr. Chr. Pett, lately dead, in his place of Maister-Shipwright of Deptford and Woolwich; which I do resolve to promote when I can. So by and by to Whitehall and there to the Duke of York's chamber, where I understand it is already resolved by the King and Duke of York that Shish shall have the place. From the Duke's chamber, Sir W. Coventry and I to walk in the Matted Gallery; and there, among other things, he tells me of the wicked design that now is at last contriving against him, to get a petition presented from people, that the money they have paid to W. Coventry for their places may be repaid them back. And that this is set on by Temple and Hollis of the Parliament and among other mean people in it, by Capt. Tatnell. And he prays me that I will use some effectual way to sift Tatnell what he doth, and who puts him on on this business; which I do undertake, and will do with all my skill for his service – being troubled that he is still under this difficulty. Thence up and down Westminster, by Mrs. Burroughes her mother's shop, thinking to have seen her, but could not; and therefore back to Whitehall, where great talk of the tumult at the other end of the town about Moorefields among the prentices, taking the liberty of these holidays to pull down bawdy houses. And Lord, to see the apprehensions which this did give to all people at Court, that presently order was given for all the soldiers, horse and foot, to be in armes; and forthwith alarmes were beat by drum and trumpet through Westminster, and all to their colours and to horse, as if the French were coming into the town. So Creed, whom I met here, and I to Lincolnes Inn fields, thinking to have gone into the fields to have seen the prentices; but here we found these fields full of soldiers all in a body, and my Lord Craven commanding of them, and riding up and down to give orders like a madman. And some young men we saw brought by soldiers to the guard at Whitehall, and overheard others that stood by say that it was only for pulling down of bawdy houses. And none of the bystanders finding fault with them, but rather of the soldiers for hindering them. And we heard a Justice of Peace this morning say to the King that he had been endeavouring to suppress this tumult, but could not; and that imprisoning some in the new prison at Clerkenwell, the rest did come and break open the prison and release them. And that they do give out that they are for pulling down of bawdy houses, which is one of the great grievances of the nation. To which the King made a