

there is many dangers of grounds and rocks that come just up to the edge almost of the sea, that is never discovered and ships perish without the world's knowing the reason of it. Among other things, they observed that there are but two seamen in the Parliament house, *viz.*, Sir W. Batten and Sir W. Pen – and not above 20 or 30 merchants; which is a strange thing in an Island, and no wonder that things of trade go no better nor are better understood. Thence home and all the afternoon at the office; only, for an hour in the evening my Lady Jemimah, Paulina, and Madam Pickering came to see us; but my wife would not be seen, being unready. Very merry with them, they mightily talking of their thrifty living for a fortnight before their mother came to town and other such simple talk, and of their merry life at Brampton at my father's this winter. So they being gone, to the office again till late; and so home and to supper and bed.

25. *Lady day.* Up and by water to Whitehall, and there to Chappell, where it was most infinite full to hear Dr. Critton. He said the greatest part of the Lay Magistrates in England were puritans and would not do justice;¹ and the Bishops, their powers were so taken away and lessened, that they could not exercise the power they ought. He told the King and the ladies, plainly speaking of death and of the skulls and bones of dead men and women, how there is no difference – that nobody could tell that of the great Marius or Alexander from a pyoneer; nor, for all the pains the ladies take with their faces, he that should look in a Charnell-house could not distinguish which was Cleopatras or fair Rosamonds or Jane Shoares. Thence by water home. After dinner to the office. Thence with my wife to see my father and discourse how he finds Tom's matters, which he doth very ill, and that he finds him to have been so negligent that he used to trust his servants with cutting out of clothes, never hardly cutting out anything himself. And by the abstract of his accounts, we find him to [owe] about above 290*l* and to be coming to him under 200*l*. Thence home with my wife, it being very durty on foot, and bought some fowl in Gracious street and some oysters against our feast tomorrow. So home; and after at the office a while, home to supper and to bed.

26. Up very betimes, and to my office and there read over some

1. Against the nonconformists.