

till it was dark in discourse of business of the Navy and the ground of the many miscarriages; wherein he doth inform me in many more then I knew, and I had desired him to put them in writing; and many endeed they are, and good ones. And also we discoursed of the business of shipping, and he hath promised me a Draught of the ship he is now building – wherein I am mightily pleased. This afternoon comes to me Capt. O Bryan, about a ship that the King hath given him, and he and I talk of the Parliament and he tells me that the business of the Duke of York's slackening sail in the first fight, at the beginning of the war,¹ is brought into Question, and Sir W. Pen and Captain Cox is to appear tomorrow about it. And is thought will at last be laid upon Mr. Brouncker's bringing orders from the Duke of York (which the Duke of York doth not own) to Capt. Cox to do it; but it seems they do resent this very highly, and are mad in going through all businesses where they can lay any fault. I am glad to hear that in the world I am as kindly spoke of as anybody; for, for aught I see, there is bloody work like to be, Sir W. Coventry having been forced to produce a letter in Parliament wherein the Duke of Albemarle did from Sherenesse write in what good posture all things were at Chatham, and that the Chain was so well placed that he feared no attempts of the enemy. So that, among other things, I see everybody is upon his own defence, and spares not to blame another to defend himself; and the same course I shall take. But God knows where it will end.

21. After dinner, I away to Westminster, and up to the Parliament house and there did wait with great patience, till 7 at night, to be called in to the Committee, who sat all this afternoon examining the business of Chatham; and at last was called in and told that the list they expected from us Mr. Wren had promised them, and only bade me to bring all my fellow-officers thither to attend them tomorrow afternoon – Sir Rob. Brookes in the chair; methinks a sorry fellow to be there, because a young man, and yet he seems to speak very well.

22. Slept but ill all the last part of the night, for fear of this day's success in Parliament; therefore up, and all of us all the morning close, till almost 2 a-clock, collecting all we had to say and had done from the beginning touching the safety of the River Medway and

1. The Battle of Lowestoft, June 1665.