

firing mighty fine, and the Duke of Monmouth in mighty rich clothes; but the well-ordering of the men I understand not.

23. At my office busy all the morning. At noon comes Mr. Eveling to me about some business with the office, and there in discourse tells me of his loss, to the value of 500*l*, which he hath met with in a late attempt of making of Bricks upon an adventure with others, by which he presumed to have got a great deal of money – so that I see the most ingenious men may sometimes be mistaken. So to the Change a little, and then home to dinner; and then by water to Whitehall to attend the Commissioners of the Treasury with Ald. Backwell about 10000*l* he is to lend us for Tanger. And then up to a committee of the Council, where was the Duke of York; and they did give us, the Officers of the Navy, the proposals of the several bidders for the victualling of the Navy, for us to give them our answer to which is the best, and whether it be better to victual by commission or contract – and to bring them our answer by Friday afternoon – which is a great deal of work. So thence back with Sir J. Mennes home, and came after us Sir W. Penn and Lord Brouncker, and we fell to the business; and I late when they were gone, to digest something of it; and so to supper and to bed.

26. Could sleep but little last night for my concernment in this business of the victualling for Sir D. Gawden. So up in the morning and he comes to me, and there I did tell him all and give him my advice; and so he away, and I to the office, where we met and did a little business; and I left them, and by water to attend the Council, which I did all the morning, but was not called in; but the Council meets again in the afternoon on purpose about it. So I at noon to Westminster hall and there stayed a little, and at the Swan also, thinking to have got Doll Lane thither, but ella did not understand my signs; and so I away and walked to Charing cross, and there into the great new ordinary by my Lord Mulgrave's, being led thither by Mr. Beale, one of Oliver's and now of the King's Guards; and he sat with me while I had two grilled pigeons, very handsome, and good meat; and there he and I talked of our old acquaintances, W. Clerke and others, being a very civil man; and so walked to Westminster and there parted, and I to the Swan again but did nothing; and so to Whitehall and there attended the King and Council, who met and heard our answer; I present and then withdrew, and they spent two hours at least afterwards about it,