

tells the King how it was the spending more then the revenue that did give the first occasion of his father's ruine, and did since to the Rebels; who he says, just like Henry the 8, had great and sudden encrease of wealth, but yet by over-spending both died poor. And further tells the King how much of this 1200000*l* depends upon the life of the Prince and so must be renewed by parliament again to his Successor; which is seldom done without parting with some of the prerogatives of the Crown; or, if denied and he persists to take it of the people, it gives occasion to a Civill war, which may, as it did in the late business of Tonnage and Poundage, prove fatal to the Crowne. He showed me how many ways the Lord Treasurer did take before he moved the King to Farme the Customes in the manner he doth, and the reasons that moved him to do it. He showed me a very excellent argument to prove that our Importing lesse then we export doth not impoverish the kingdom, according to the received opinion – which though it be a paradox and that I do not remember the argument, yet methought there was a great deal in what he said; and upon the whole, I find him a most exact and methodicall man and of great industry. And very glad that he thought fit to show me all this, though I cannot easily guess the reason why he should do it to me – unless from the plainness that he sees I use to him in telling him how much the King may suffer for our want of understanding the case of our Treasury.

## ✱MARCH✱

2. To the office till dinner; and after dinner, my wife to cut my hair short, which is grown pretty long again. And then to the office and there till 9 at night doing business. This afternoon we had a good present of tongues and Bacon from Mr. Shales of Portsmouth. So at night home to supper; and being troubled with my eye, to bed. This morning Mr. Burgby, one of the writing clerks belonging to the Council, was with me about business, a knowing man. He complains how most of the Lords of the Council do look after themselves and their own ends and none the public, unless Sir Edw. Nicholas. Sir G. Carteret is diligent, but all for his own ends and profit. My Lord Privy Seale, a destroyer of everybody's business and doth no good at all to the public. The Archbishop of