

the Excize Office first, and there met the Cofferer and Sir St. Fox about our money matters there, wherein we agreed; and so to discourse of my Lord Treasurer, who is a little better then he was of the stone, having rested a little this night. I there did acquaint them with my knowledge of that disease, which I believe will be told my Lord Treasurer. Thence to Westminster, in the way meeting many milkmaids with their garlands upon their pails, dancing with a fiddler before them, and saw pretty Nelly standing at her lodgings door in Drury lane in her smock-sleeves and bodice, looking upon one – she seemed a mighty pretty creature. To the Hall and there walked a while, it being term; and thence home to the Rose and there had Doll Lane vener para me; but it was in a lugar mighty ouvert, so as we no poda hazer algo; so parted and then met again at the Swan, where for la misma reason we no pode hazer, but put off to recontrar anon, which I only used as a put-off; and so parted and to my Lord Crew's, where I found them at dinner; and among others, Mrs. Bocket, which I have not seen a long time, and two little dirty children, and she as idle a prating, impertinent woman as ever she was. After dinner my Lord took me alone, walked with me, giving me an account of the meeting of the Commissioners for Accounts, whereof he is one. My Lord tells me he doth believe this Commission will do more hurt then good; it may undo some accounts if these men shall think fit, but it can never clear an accountant, for he must come into the Exchequer for all this. Besides, it is a kind of Inquisition that hath seldom, if ever, been granted in England; and [he] believes it will never besides give any satisfaction to the people or Parliament, but be looked upon as a forced, packed business of the King, especially if these Parliament men that are of it shall not concur with them – which he doubts they will not – and therefore wishes much that the King would lay hold of this fit occasion, and let the Commission fall. Then to talk of my Lord Sandwich, whom my Lord Crew hath a great desire might get to be Lord Treasurer if the present Lord should die, as it's believed he will in a little time – and thinks he can have no competitor but my Lord Arlington, who it is given out desires [it]. But my Lord thinks it is not so, for that the being Secretary doth keep him a great[er] interest with the King then the other would do – at least, doth believe that if my Lord would surrender him his Wardrobe place, it would be a temptation to Arlington to assist my Lord in getting the Treasurer[’s]. I did object to my Lord that it would be no place of content nor safety, nor honour for my Lord – the State being so