

&c., as if they never had done anything else – whereas the [Cavaliers] go with their belts and swords, swearing and cursing and stealing – running into people's houses, by force oftentimes, to carry away something. And this is the difference between the temper of one and the other; and concludes (and I think with some reason) that the spirits of the old Parliament-soldier[s] are so quiet and contented with God's providences, that the King is safer from any evil meant him by them, a thousand times more then from his own discontented Cavalier[s]. And then to the public management of business: it is done, as he observes, so loosely and so carelessly, that the kingdom can never be happy with it, every man looking after himself and his own lust and luxury; among other things, he instanced in the business of mony; he doth believe that half of what the Parliament gives the King is not so much as gathered.

From thence we begun to talk of the Navy, and perticularly of Sir W. Pen – of whose rise to be a general I had a mind to be informed. He told me he was always a conceited man and one that would put the best side outward, but that it was his pretence of sanctity that brought him into play. Lawson and Portman and the Fifth-monarchy men, among whom he was a great brother, importuned that he might be general; and it was pleasant to see how Blackburn himself did act it; how when the Comissioners of the Admiralty would enquire of the Captains and Admiralls of such and such men, how they would with a sithe and casting up the eye say, "Such a man fears the Lord" – or, "I hope such a man hath the Spirit of God," and such things as that. But he tells me that there was a cruel Articling against Pen after one fight, for cowardice in putting himself within a Coyle of Cables, of which he had much ado to acquit himself. Thus far, and upon many more things, we had discoursed, when some persons in a room hard by begun to sing in three parts very finely, and to play upon a Flagilette so pleasantly, that my discourse afterward was but troublesome and I could not attend it; and so anon considering of a sudden the time a-night, we find it 11 a-clock, which I thought it had not been by two hours, but we were close in talk; and so we rise, he having drunk some wine and I some beer and sugar, and so by a fair moonshine home and to bed. My wife troubled with toothake.

11. Up and to my office all the morning; and at noon to the Coffee-house, where with Dr. Allen some good discourse about physic and Chymistry. And among other things, I telling him what