

but at last we found no boat yet could go, so we to the office, where we met upon an occasion extraordinary, of examining abuses of our clerks in taking money for examining of tickets, but nothing done in it. Thence my Lord and I, the weather being a little fairer, by water to Detford to Sir G. Carteret's house, where W. How met us; and there we opened the chests and saw the poor sorry Rubys which have caused all this ado to the undoing of W. How;¹ though I am not much sorry for it, because of his pride and ill-nature. About 200 of these very small stones and a cod of Muske (which it is strange I was not able to smell) is all we could find. So locked them up again, and my Lord and I, the wind being again very furious, so as we durst not go by water, walked to London quite round the Bridge, no boat being able to Stirre; and Lord, what a dirty walk we had, and so strong the wind, that in the fields we many times could not carry our bodies against it, but was driven backward. We went through Horsydowne, where I never was since a little boy, that I went to enquire after my father, whom we did give over for lost, coming from Holland. It was dangerous to walk the streets, the bricks and tiles falling from the houses, that the whole streets were covered in them – and whole chimneys, nay, whole houses in two or three places, blowed down. But above all, the pales on London bridge on both sides were blown away, so that we were fain to stoop very low, for fear of blowing off of the bridge. We could see no boats in the Thames afloat but what were broke loose and carried through the bridge, it being ebbing water. And the greatest sight of all was, among other parcels of ships driven here and there in clusters together, one was quite overset, and lay with her masts all along in the water and keel above water. So walked home; my Lord away to his house and I to dinner, Mr. Creede being come to town and to dine with me, though now it was 3 a-clock. After dinner, he and I to our accounts; and very troublesome he is and with tricks, which I found plainly and was vexed at.

25. Up, and to the office. At noon home to dinner. So abroad to the Duke of Albemarle and K. Joyces and her husband, with whom I talked a great deal about Pall's business; and told them what portion I would give her, and they do mightily like of it and will

1. Deputy-Treasurer of Sandwich's fleet; he had been examined before the Privy Council on a charge of embezzling the jewels taken as prize from the Dutch E. Indiamen (q.v. above, p. 541 (11 October)).