

well as he used to be, and looks as well; only, something appears to be under his periwig on the crown of his head.

4. Up; and going down, found Jervas the barber with a periwig which I had the other day cheapened at Westminster; but it being full of nits, as heretofore his work used to be, I did now refuse it, having bought elsewhere. So to the office till noon, busy; and then (which I think I have not done three times in my life) left the board upon occasion of a letter from Sir W. Coventry; and meeting Balty at my house, I took him with me by water, and to the Duke of Albemarle to give him an account of that business; which was the shipping off of some soldiers for the manning of the few ships now going out with Harman to the West Indies; which is a sad consideration, that at the very beginning of the year, and few ships abroad, we should be in such want of men; but they do hide themselves and swear they will not go to be killed and have no pay. I find the Duke of Albemarle at dinner with sorry company, some of his officers of the Army – dirty dishes and a nasty wife at table – and bad meat; of which I made but an ill dinner. Pretty, to hear how she talked against Capt. Du Tel, the Frenchman that the Prince and her husband put out last year; and how, says she, the Duke of York hath made for his good services his cup-bearer; yet fired more shot into the Prince's ship, and others of the King's ships, then of the enemy.¹ And the Duke of Albemarle did confirm it, and that somebody in the fight did cry out that a little Dutchman by his ship did plague him more then any other; upon which they were going to order him to be sunk, when they looked and found it was Du Tell, who, as the Duke of Albemarle says, had killed several men in several of our ships. He said, but for his interest which he knew he had at Court, he had hanged him at the yard's arm without staying for a Court Martiall. My Lady Duchesse, among other things, discoursed of the wisdom of dividing the fleet; which the Generall said nothing to, though he knows well that it come from themselves in the fleet and was brought up hither by Sir Edw. Spragge. One at the table told an odd passage in this late plague: that at Petersfield (I think he said) one side of the street had every house almost infected through the town; and the other, not one shut up. Dinner being done, I brought Balty to the Duke of Albemarle to kiss his hands and thank him for his kindness the last year to him and take leave of him. And

1. In the Four Days Battle.