

standing upon a pile of bricks, made his sign with his handkercher upon his stick, and called all the rest to him, and several shouts they gave. This made me afeared, so I got home as fast as I could – and hearing of no present hurt, did go to Sir Robt. Viners about my plate again; and coming home, do hear of 1000 seamen said in the streets to be in armes. So in great fear home, expecting to find a tumult about our house, and was doubtful of my riches there – but I thank God, I found all well. But by and by Sir W. Batten and Sir R. Ford do tell me that the seamen have been at some prisons to release some seamen, and that the Duke of Albemarle is in armes, and all the Guards at the other end of the town; and the Duke of Albemarle is gone with some forces to Wapping to quell the seamen – which is a thing of infinite disgrace to us. I sat long, talking with them. And among other things, Sir R. Ford did make me understand how the House of Commons is a beast not to be understood – it being impossible to know beforehand the success almost of any small plain thing – there being so many to think and speak to any business, and they of so uncertain minds and interests and passions. He did tell me and so did Sir W. Batten, how Sir Allen Brodericke and Sir Allen Apsly did come drunk the other day into the House, and did both speak for half an hour together, and could not be either laughed or pulled or bid to sit down and hold their peace – to the great contempt of the King’s servants and cause – which I am aggrieved at with all my heart. We were full in discourse of the sad state of our times. And the horrid shame brought on the King’s service by the just clamours of the poor seamen. And that we must be undone in a little time. Home, full of trouble on these considerations. And among other things, I to my chamber and there to ticket a good part of my books, in order to the Numbring of them – for my easy finding them to read, as I have occasion. So to supper and to bed – with my heart full of trouble.

24. Up, and to the office, where Lord Brouncker, J. Mennes, W. Penn, and myself met; and there I did use my notes I took on Saturday night about tickets, and did come to a good settlement in that business of that office, if it be kept to – this morning being a meeting on purpose. At noon, to prevent my Lord Brouncker’s dining here, I walked as if upon business with him (it being frost and dry) as far as Paul’s, and so back again through the City by Yildhall, observing the ruines thereabouts, till I did truly lose myself; and so home to dinner. I do truly find that I have