

Lever sent my wife a pair of silver candlesticks, very pretty ones – the first man that ever presented me to whom I have not only done little service, but apparently did him the greatest disservice in his business of accounts, as Purser generall, of any man at the board.

9. Called up, as I had appointed, by H. Russell, between 2 and 3 a-clock: and I and my boy Tom by water with a galley down to the Hope, it being a fine starry night. Got thither by 8 a-clock and there, as expected, found the *Charles*, her mainmast setting. Comissioner Pett aboard. I up and down to see the ship I was so well acquainted with¹ – and a great work it is, the setting so great a mast. Thence the Comissioner and I on board Sir G. Ascue in the *Henery* – who lacks men mightily. Thence, not staying, the wind blowing hard, I made use of the *Jemmy* Yacht and returned to the Tower in her – my boy being a very droll boy and good company. Home and eat something, and then shifted myself and to Whitehall; and there, the King being in his Cabinet council (I desiring to speak with Sir G. Carteret), I was called in and demanded by the King himself many Questions, to which I did give him full answers. There was at this council my Lord Chancellor, Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Treasurer, the two Secretaries, and Sir G. Carteret. Not a little contented at this chance of being made known to these persons, and called often by my name by the King – I to Mr. Pierce's to take leave of him, but he not within but saw her; and made very little stay but straight home to my office, where I did business, and then to supper and to bed.

11. Up, and with Sir J. Mennes and Sir W. Batten to the council chamber at Whitehall, to the committee of the Lords for the Navy – where we were made to wait an hour or two before called in. Sir Edw. Walker coming in, in discourse did say that there was none of the families of princes in Christendom that do derive themselves so high as Julius Cæsar, nor so far by a thousand years, that can directly prove their rise. Only, some in Germany do derive themselves from the patrician familys of Rome, but that uncertainly. And among other things, did much enveigh against the writing of Romances; that five hundred years hence, being wrote of matters in general true, as the Romance of *Cleopatra*, the world will not know which is the true and which the false. Here was a gentleman

1. On the Dutch voyage, 1660.