

and myself, with Capt. Deane, taking a hackney, did go out toward Bow and went as far as Stratford, and all the way talking of this invention, and he offering me a third of the profit of the invention; which, for aught I know or do at present think, may prove matter considerable to us; for either the King will give him a reward for it, if he keeps it to himself, or he will give us a patent to make our profit of it; and no doubt but it will be of profit to merchantmen and others, to have guns of the same force at half the charge. This was our talk; and then to talk of other things of the Navy in general; and among other things, he did tell me that he doth hear how the Duke of Buckingham hath a spite at me, which I knew before but value it not; and he tells me that Sir T. Allen is not my friend; but for all this I am not much troubled, for I know myself so useful, that, as I believe, they will not part with me; so I thank [God], my condition is such that I can retire and be able to live with comfort, though not with abundance. Thus we spent the evening with extraordinary good discourse, to my great content; and so home to the office and there did some business; and then home, where my wife doth come home, and I vexed at her staying out so late; but she tells me that she hath been at home with M. Batelier a good while, so I made nothing of it – but to supper and to bed.

21. After dinner, by water to Whitehall, where the Duke of York did meet our Office and went with us to the Lord Commissioners of the Treasury; and there we did go over all the business of the state I had drawn up, of this year's action and expense; which I did do to their satisfaction, and convincing them of the necessity of providing more money, if possible, for us. Thence, the Duke of York being gone, I did there stay walking with Sir H. Cholmly in the Court, talking of news; where he told me that now the great design of the Duke of Buckingham is to prevent the meeting, since he cannot bring about with the King the dissolving, of this Parliament, that the King may not need it; and therefore my Lord St. Albans is hourly expected, with great offers of a million of money, to buy our breach with the Dutch; and this they do think may tempt the King to take the money, and thereby be out of a necessity of calling the Parliament again – which these people dare not suffer to meet again. But this he doubts, and so do I, that it will be to the ruin of the nation if we fall out with Holland. This we were discoursing, when my boy comes to tell me that his mistress was at the gate with the coach; whither I went and there find my wife and the whole