

and so in the evening, Mr. Pelling supping with us, to supper and so to bed.

5. Up, and I to Capt. Cockes, where he and I did discourse of our business that we are to go about to the Commissioners of Accounts, about our prizes.¹ And having resolved to conceal nothing but confess the truth, the truth being likely to do us most good, we parted; and I to Whitehall, where missing of the Commissioners of the Treasury, I to the Commissioners of Accounts, where I was forced to stay two hours I believe before I was called in; and when came in, did take an oath to declare the truth to what they should ask me (which is a great power, I doubt more then the Act doth, or as some say can, give them: to force a man to swear against himself); and so they fell to enquire about the business of prize goods, wherein I did answer them as well as I could answer them, to everything the just truth, keeping myself to that. I do perceive at last that that they did lay most like a fault to me was that I did buy goods upon my Lord Sandwiches declaring that it was with the King's allowance, and my believing it without seeing the King's allowance – which is a thing I will own, and doubt not to justify myself in. They were inquisitive into the meanest particulars, and had had great information; but I think that it can do me no hurt, at the worst more then to make me refund, if it must be known, what profit I did make of my agreement with Capt. Cocke. And yet though this be all, yet I do find so poor a spirit within me, that it makes me almost out of my wits, and puts me to so much pain that I cannot think of anything, nor do anything but vex and fret and imagine myself undone – so that I am ashamed of myself to myself, and do fear what would become of me if any real affliction should come upon me.

6. Up and to the office, where all the morning; and among other things, Sir H. Cholmly comes to me about a little business and there tells me how the Parliament (which is to meet again today) are likely to fall heavy on the business of the Duke of Buckingham's pardon;² and I shall be glad of it. And that the King hath put out of the Court the two Hides, my Lord Chancellor's two sons, and also the Bishops of Rochester and Winchester, the latter of which should

1. The prize goods taken from the Dutch E. Indiamen in 1665; see above, p. 530 & n.

2. For the duel with Shrewsbury.