

year of the East India prizes. So up, and with Mr. Hayter and W. Hewer and Gibson to consider of our business and books and papers necessary for this examination; and by and by, by 8 a-clock, comes Birch the first, with the list and books of accounts delivered in. He calls me to work, and there he and I begin; when by and by comes Garraway, the first time I ever saw him, and Sir W. Thomson and Mr. Boscawen. They to it, and I did make shift to answer them better then I expected. Sir W. Batten, Lord Brouncker, W. Penn came in, but presently went out; and J. Mennes came in, and said two or three words from the purpose but to do hurt; and so away he went also – and left me all the morning with them alone, to stand or fall. At noon W. Batten comes to them to invite them (though fast-day) to dinner – which they did, and good company they were, but especially Garraway. Here I have news brought me of my father's com[ing] to town, and I presently to him. Glad to see him, poor man, he being come unexpected to see us and the City. I could not stay with him, but after dinner to work again, only the committee and I, till dark night; and by that time they cast up all the lists and found out what the medium of men was borne all the war, of all sorts – and ended with good peace and much seeming satisfaction; but I find them wise and reserved, and instructed to hit all our blots – as, among others, that we reckon the ships full manned from the beginning. They gone, and my heart eased of a great deal of fear and pain, and reckoning myself to come off with victory, because not overcome in anything or much foiled, I away to Sir W. Coventry's chamber, but he not within; then to Whitehall and there among the ladies, and saw my Lady Castlemaine never looked so ill, nor Mrs. Stewart neither, as in this plain natural dress; I was not pleased with either of them. Away, not finding W. Coventry; and so home, and there find my father and my brother come to town – my father without my expectation; but glad I am to see him. And so to supper with him, and to work again at the office; then home to set up all my Folio books, which are come home gilt on the backs, very handsome to the eye; and then at midnight to bed.

4. Up, and mighty betimes to W. Coventry to give him an account of yesterday's work, which doth give him good content. He did then tell me his speech lately to the House in his own vindication, about the report of his selling of places – he having a small occasion offered him by chance, which he did desire, and took