

some more pressed men – and that done, away to Broadstreete to Sir G. Carteret, who is at a pay of Tickets all alone. And I believe not less then 1000 people in the streets. But it is a pretty thing to observe, that both there and everywhere else a man shall see many women nowadays of mean sort in the streets, but no men; men being so afeared of the press. I dined with Sir G. Carteret; and after dinner had much discourse about our public business, and he doth seem to fear every day more and more what I do, which is a general confusion in the State. Plainly answering me to the question, Who is it that the weight of the Warr depends? that it is only Sir W. Coventry. Thence to Lumberdstreete, and received 2000*l* and carried it home – whereof, 1000*l* in gold, the greatest quantity, not only that I ever had of gold, but that ever I saw together. Thence down to the Old Swan, calling at Michells, he not being within; and there I did steal a kiss or two of her, and staying a little longer, he came in, and her father, whom I carried to Westminster, my business being thither; and so back again home, and very busy all the evening; at night, a song in the garden and to bed.

10. Up, and to the office, where busy all the morning sitting. At noon home to dinner, and then to the office, the yard being very full of women (I believe above 300) coming to get money for their husbands and friends that are prisoners in Holland; and they lay clamouring and swearing, and cursing us, that my wife and I were afeared to send a venison-pasty that we have for supper tonight to the cook's to be baked, for fear of their offering violence to it – but it went, and no hurt done. Then I took an opportunity, when they were all gone into the foreyard, and slipped into the office and there busy all the afternoon. But by and by the women got into the garden, and came all to my closet window and there tormented me; and I confess, their cries were so sad for money, and laying down the condition of their families and their husbands, and what they have done and suffered for the King, and how ill they are used by us, and how well the Dutch are used here by the allowance of their masters, and what their husbands are offered to serve the Dutch abroad, that I do most heartily pity them, and was ready to cry to hear them – but cannot help them; however, when the rest was gone, I did call one to me, that I heard complain only and pity her husband, and did give her some money; and she blessed me and went away.