

Change at all glad of it, but rather the worse, they looking upon it as a peace made only to preserve the King for a time in his lusts and ease, and to sacrifice trade and his kingdoms only to his own pleasures; so that the hearts of merchants are quite down. He told me that Sir G. Carteret was at this end of the town; so I went to visit him in Broad street, and there he and I together. He tells me, as to news, that the peace is now confirmed and all that over. He says it was a very unhappy motion in the House the other day about the land army; for whether the King hath a mind of his own to do the thing desired or no, his doing it will be looked upon as a thing done only in fear of the Parliament. He says that the Duke of York is suspected to be the great man that is for raising of this army and bringing things to be commanded by an army; but he believes that he is wronged, and says that he doth know that he is wronged therein. He doth say that the Court is in a way to ruin all for their pleasures; and says that he himself hath once taken the liberty to tell the King the necessity of having at least a show of religion in the government, and sobriety; and that it was that that did set up and keep up Oliver, though he was the greatest rogue in the world. And that it is so fixed in the nature of the common Englishman, that it will not out of him. He tells me that while all should be labouring to settle the Kingdom, they are at Court all in factions, some for and others against my Lord Chancellor, and another for and against another man; and the King adheres to no man, but this day delivers himself up to this and the next to that, to the ruin of himself and business. That he is at the command of any woman like a slave, though he be the best man to the Queene in the world, with so much respect and never lies a night from her; but yet cannot command himself in the presence of a woman he likes. Having had this discourse, I parted and home to dinner, and thence to the office all the afternoon to my great content, very busy. It raining this day all day to our great joy, it having not rained I think this month before, so as the ground was everywhere as burned and dry as could be – and no travelling in the road or streets in London for dust. At night, late home to supper and to bed.

28. *Lords day.* Up, and to my chamber, where all the morning close, to draw up a letter to Sir W. Coventry upon this tidings of peace, taking occasion (before I am forced to it) to resign up to his Royal Highness my place of the Victualling and to recommend myself to him by promise of doing my utmost to improve this