

receiving of the contingent money to be paymaister of it; and it pleases me the more for that it is but 1500l, which will be but a little sum for to try his ability and honesty in the disposing of – and so I am the willinger to trust him and pass my word for him therein. By and by up to the Duke of York, where our usual business; and among other things, I read two most dismal letters of the straits we are in (from Coll. Middleton and Comissioner Taylor) that ever were writ in the world, so as the Duke of York would have them to show the King. And to every demand of money, whereof we proposed many and very pressing ones, Sir G. Carteret could make no answer but “No money”, which I confess made me almost ready to cry for sorrow and vexation; but that which was the most considerable was when Sir G. Carteret did say that he had no fond to raise money on; and being asked by Sir W. Coventry whether the Eleven Months Tax was not a fond, and he answered no – that the banquiers would not lend money upon it. Thence to the chapel, and there by chance hear that Dr. Crew is to preach; and so into the Organ loft, where I met Mr. Carteret and my Lady Jemimah and Sir Tho. Crew’s two daughters, and Dr. Childe played – and Dr. Crew did make a very pretty, neat, sober, honest sermon; and delivered it very readily, decently, and gravely, beyond his years – so as I was exceedingly taken with it, and I believe the whole chapel – he being but young; but his manner of his delivery I do like exceedingly. His text was, “But first seeke the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you.” Thence with my Lady to Sir G. Carteret’s lodgings, and so up into the house and there do hear that the Dutch letters are come and say that the Dutch have ordered a passe to be sent for our Commissioners; and that it is now upon the way, coming with a Trumpeter, blinded as is usual. But I perceive everybody begins to doubt the success of the treaty, all their hopes being only that if it can be had on any terms, the Chancellor will have it; for he dare not come before a Parliament, nor a great many more of the Courtiers, and the King himself doth declare he doth not desire it, nor entend it but on a strait – which God defend him from. Here I hear how the King is not so well pleased of this marriage between the Duke of Richmond and Mrs. Stewart as is talked; and that he by a wilde did fetch her to the Beare at the Bridge foot, where a coach was ready, and they are stole away into Kent without the King’s leave; and that the King hath said he will never see her more, but people do think that it is only a trick. This day I saw Prince Rupert abroad in the Vane Roome, pretty