

26. Up, and to the office betimes, and there all the morning – very busy to get out the fleet, the Dutch being now for certain out, and we shall not, we think, be much behindhand with them. At noon to the Change about business, and so home to dinner, and after dinner to the setting my Journall to rights; and so to the office again – where all the afternoon full of business, and there till night, that my eyes were sore, that I could not write no longer. Then into the garden; then my wife and Mercer, and my Lady Pen and her daughter with us. And here we sang in the dark very finely half an hour, and so home to supper and to bed. This afternoon, after a long growth, we had a good shoure of rain, but it will not signify much if no more come. This day, in the morning came Mr. Chichly to Sir W. Coventry to tell him the ill-successe of the guns made for the *Loyall London*; which is, that in the trial, every one of the great guns, the whole Cannon of seven (as I take it), broke to pieces – which is a strange mishap, and that which will give more occasion to people's discourse of the King's business being done ill.

27. Up, and to my office awhile. Then down the River a little way to see vessels ready for the carrying down of 400 land-soldiers to the fleet. Then back to the office for my papers, and so to St. James's, where we did our usual attendance on the Duke. I did this afternoon visit my Lord Bellasses – who professes all imaginable satisfaction in me. He spoke dissatisfiedly with Creed, which I was pleased well enough with. My Lord is going down to his Garrison to Hull, by the King's command to put it in order, for fear of an invasion – which course I perceive is taken upon the sea-coasts round; for we have a real apprehension of the King of France's invading us.

29. To Whitehall; and thence, the Council being up, walked to St. James's and there had much discourse with Sir W. Coventry at his chamber – who I find quite weary of the war. Decries our having any war at all, or himself to have been any occasion of it. That he hopes this will make us shy of any war hereafter, or to prepare better for it. Believes that one overthrow on the Dutch side would make them desire peace, and that one on ours will make us willing to accept of one. Tells me that Comissioner Pett is fallen infinitely under the displeasure of the Prince and Duke of Albemarle, not giving them satisfaction in the getting out of the fleet; and that that complaint, he believes, is come to the King. Thence home, and to the office – where I met with a letter from Dover which tells me