

expired, and the King is prevailed with to take it out of his hands; which people do mightily admire, saying that he is the greatest subject of any prince in Christendome, and hath more acres of land then any – and hath done more for his prince then ever any yet did. But all will not do; he must down it seems – the Duke of Buckingham carrying all before him. But that that troubles me most, is that they begin to talk that the Duke of York's regiment is ordered to be disbanded; and more, that undoubtedly his Admiralty will fallow; which doth shake me mightily, and I fear will have ill consequences in the nation, for these counsels are very mad. The Duke of York doth, by all men's report, carry himself wonderful submissive to the King, in the most humble manner in the world; but yet it seems nothing must be spared that tends to the keeping out of the Chancellor, and that is the reason of all this. The great discourse now is that the Parliament shall be dissolved, and another called which shall give the King the Deane and Chapters lands; and that will put him out of debt. And it is said that Buckingham doth knownly meet daily with Wildman and other Commonwealthsmen; and that when he is with them, he makes the King believe that he is with his wenches. But that that pleases me most, is that several do tell me that Pen is to be removed; and others, that he hath resigned his place; and particularly, Spragge tells me for certain that he hath resigned it and is become a partener with Gawden in the victualling – in which I think he hath done a very cunning thing, but I am sure I am glad of it, and it will be well for the King – to have him out of this office. When I came home tonight, I find Deb not come home, and do doubt whether she be not quite gone or no; but my wife is silent to me in it, and I to her, but fell to other discourse; and ended am well satisfied that my house will never be at peace between my wife and I unless I let her go, though it grieves me to the heart. My wife and I spent much time this evening talking of our being put out of the office and my going to live at Deptford at her brother's till I can clear my accounts and rid my hands of the town – which will take me a year or more; and I do think it will be best for me to do so, in order to our living cheap and out of sight.