

insomuch, that I sent Mr. Clapham express thither to see how matters go. I did about noon resolve to send Mr. Gibson away after my wife with another 1000 pieces, under colour of an express to Sir Jer. Smith, who is, as I hear, with some ships at Newcastle; which I did really send to him, and may possibly prove of good use to the King; for it is possible, in the hurry of business that they may not think of it at Court, and the charge of express is not considerable to the King. So though I intend Gibson no further then to Huntington, yet I direct him to send the packet forward.

My business the most of the afternoon is listening to everybody that comes to the office, what news, which is variously related, some better, some worse, but nothing certain. The King and Duke of York up and down all the day here and there; some time on Tower hill, where the City Militia was; where the King did make a speech to them that they should venture themselves no further then he would himself. I also sent (my mind being in pain) Saunders after my wife and father, to overtake them at their night's lodging to see how matters go with them. In the evening I sent for my cousin Sarah and her husband; who came and I did deliver them my chest of writings about Brampton, and my brother Tom's papers and my Journalls, which I value much – and did send my two silver flagons to Kate Joyce's: that so, being scattered what I have, something might be saved. I have also made a girdle, by which with some trouble I do carry about me 300*l* in gold about my body, that I may not be without something in case I should be surprized; for I think, in any nation but ours, people that appear (for we are not endeed so) so faulty as we would have their throats cut. In the evening comes Mr. Pelling and several others to the office, and tell me that never were people so dejected as they are in the City all over at this day, and do talk most loudly, even treason; as, that we are bought and sold, that we are betrayed by the papists and others about the King – cry out that the Office of the Ordinance hath been so backward as no powder to have been at Chatham nor Upner Castle till such a time, and the carriages all broken – that Legg is a papist – that Upner, the old good castle built by Queen Elizabeth, should be lately slighted – that the ships at Chatham should not be carried up higher. They look upon us as lost; and remove their families and rich goods in the City and do think verily that the French, being come down with his army to Dunkirke, it is to invade us – and that we shall be invaded. Mr. Clerke the solicitor comes to me about business, and tells me that he hears that the King hath chosen Mr.