

to supper, and then to bed. No news today of any motion of the enemy, either upwards towards Chatham or this way.

15. All the morning at the office. No news more then last night; only, Purser Tyler comes and tells me that he being at all the passages in this business at Chatham, he says there have been horrible miscarriages, such as we shall shortly hear of. That the want of boats hath undone us; and it is commonly said, and Sir J. Mennes under his hand tells us, that they were imployed by the men of the Yard to carry away their goods; and I hear that Comissioner Pett will be found the first man that begun to remove; he is much spoken against – and Brouncker is complained of and reproached for discharging the men of the great ships heretofore. At noon Mr. Hater dined with me, and tells me he believes that it will hardly be the want of money alone that will excuse to the Parliament the neglect of not setting out a fleet, it having never been [harbour-] bound in our greatest straits; but how[ever] unlikely that it appeared, yet when it was gone about, the State or King did compass it; and there is something in it. In like manner, all the afternoon busy, vexed to see how slowly things go on for want of money. At night comes (unexpectedly so soon) Mr. Gibson, who left my wife well and all got down well with them, but not with himself, who (which I was afeared of and cannot blame him, but must myself be wiser against another time) had one of his bags broke through his breeches. And some pieces dropped out, not many (he thinks but two, for he light and took them up, and went back and could find no more); but I am not able to tell how many, which troubles me; but the joy of having the greatest part safe there makes me bear with it, so as not to afflict myself for it. This afternoon, poor Betty Michell, whom I love, sent to tell my wife her child was dying; which I am troubled for, poor girl. At night home and to my flagelette; played with pleasure, but with a heavy heart; only, it pleased me to think how it may please God I may live to spend my time in the country with plainness and pleasure, though but with little glory. So to supper and to bed.

18. To the office; and by and by word was brought me that Comissioner Pett is brought to the Tower and there laid up close prisoner – which puts me into a fright, lest they may do the same with us as they do with him. This puts me upon hastening what I am doing with my people, and collecting out of my papers our