

says that he was a pitiful [fellow] when she first knew them. That his lady was one of the sorriest, dirty women that ever she saw. That his rise hath been his giving of large Bribes, wherein (and she agrees with my opinion and knowledge before therein) he is very profuse. That long ago endeed, he would drink the King's health privately with Mr. Turner; but that when he saw it fit to turn Roundhead, and was offered by Mr. Turner to drink the King's health, he answered no, he was changed, and now he that would make him drink the King's health, or any health but the Protectors and the State's (or to that purpose), he would be the first man should sheath his sword in his guts. That at the King's coming in, he did send for her husband and told him what a great man Sir W. Coventry was like to be; and that he having all the records in his hands of the Navy, if he would transcribe what was of most present use of the practice of the Navy, and give them him to give Sir W. Coventry from him, it would undoubtedly do his business of getting him a Principal Officer's place. That he was the last war a most devilish plunderer, and that got him his estate which he hath in Ireland, and nothing else; and that he hath always been a very liberal man in his bribes. That upon his coming into this part of the Controller's business wherein he is, he did send for T. Willson and told him how against his knowledge he was put in, and had so little wit as to say to him, "This will make the pot boyle, will it not, Mr. Willson? will it not make the pot boil?" and doth offer him to come in and do his business for him, and he would reward him. Upon the whole, she told me stories enough to confirm me that he is the most false fellow that ever was born of woman, and that so she thinks and knows him to be.

22. Up and by water to Whitehall to Sir G. Carteret, who tells me now for certain how the Commission for the Treasury is disposed of: *viz.*, to Duke of Albemarle, Lord Ashly, Sir W. Coventry, Sir Jo. Duncum, and Sir Tho. Clifford; at which he says all the whole Court is disturbed, it having been once concluded otherwise, but all of a sudden the King's choice was changed, and these are to be the men; the first of which is only for a puppet to give honour to the rest. He doth presage that these men will make it their business to find faults in the management of the late Lord Treasurer and in discouraging the banquiers; but I am (whatever I in compliance do say to him) of another mind, and my heart is very glad of it; for I do expect they will do much good, and that it is the happiest thing that