

the world. I there, and made even all accounts in the world between him and I in very good condition. And would have done the like with Sir Rob. Viner, but he is out of town – the sickness being everywhere thereabouts. I to the Exchange, and I think there was not 50 people upon it and but few more like to be, as they told me, Sir G. Smith and others. Thus, I think to take Adieu today of London streets, unless it be to go again to Viners. Home to dinner, and there W. Hewer brings me 119*l* he hath received for my office disbursements, so that I think I have 1800*l* and more in the house; and blessed be God, no money out but what I can very well command, and that but very little – which is much the best posture I ever was in in my life, both as to the quantity and the certainty I have of the money I am worth, having most of it in my own hand. But then this is a trouble to me, what to do with it, being myself this day going to be wholly at Woolwich.¹ But for the present I am resolved to venture it in an Iron Chest – at least, for a while. In the afternoon I sent down my boy to Woolwich with some things before me, in order to my lying there for good and all, and so I fallowed him. Just now comes news that the Fleete is gone, or going this day, out again – for which God be praised; and my Lord Sandwich hath done himself great right in it in getting so soon out again. Pray God he may meet the Enemy.

31. Thus this month ends, with great sadness upon the public through the greatness of the plague, everywhere through the Kingdom almost. Every day sadder and sadder news of its encrease. In the City died this week 7496; and of them 6102 of the plague. But it is feared that the true number of the dead this week is near 10000 – partly from the poor that cannot be taken notice of through the greatness of the number, and partly from the Quakers and others that will not have any bell ring for them. Our fleet gone out to find the Dutch, we having about 100 sail in our fleet, and in them, the *Sovereigne* one; so that it is a better fleet then the former with the Duke was. All our fear is that the Dutch should be got in before them – which would be a very great sorrow to the public, and to me perticularly, for my Lord Sandwichs sake. A great deal of money being spent, and the Kingdom not in a condition to spare, nor a parliament, without much difficulty, to meet to give more. And to that, to have it said “What hath been done by our late fleets?” As to

1. For his movements, see above, p. 503, n.