

was my chief and only errand, about what was advisable for his Lordshipp to do in this state of things, himself being under the Duke of York and Mr. Coventrys envy and a great many more – and likely never to do anything honourably but he shall be envied, and the honour taken as much as can be from it. His absence lessens his interest at Court – and which is worst, we never able to set out a fleet fit for him to command; or if out, to keep them out, or fit them to do any great thing; or if that were so, yet nobody at home minds him or his condition when he is abroad; and lastly, the whole affairs of state looking as if they would all on a sudden break in pieces, and then what a sad thing it would be for him to be out of the way. We after this talked of some other little things, and so to dinner, where my Lord infinitely kind to me; and after dinner I rose and left him with some Commanders at the table, taking tobacco; and I took the *Bezan* back with me, and with a brave gale and tide reached up that night to the Hope, taking great pleasure in learning the seamen's manner of singing when they sound the depths. And then to supper and to sleep, which I did most excellently all night, it being a horrible foul night for wind and rain.

4. They sailed from midnight, and came to Greenwich about 5 a-clock in the morning – I, however, lay till about 7 or 8; and so to my office – my head a little akeing, partly for want of natural rest – partly having so much business to do today, and partly from the news I hear, that one of the little boys at my lodging is not well, and they suspect that it may be the plague. Sir W. Batten and myself at the office all the morning. At noon with him to dinner at Boreman's, where Mr. Seymour with us – who is a most conceited fellow, and not over-much in him. Here Sir W. Batten told us (which I had not heard before) that the last sitting-day his cloak was taken from Mingo, going home to dinner, and that he was beaten by the seamen, and swears he will come to Greenwich but no more to the office (till he can sit safe); after dinner, I to the office and there very late. And much troubled to have 100 seamen all the afternoon there, swearing below and cursing us and breaking the glass windows; and swear they will pull the house down on Tuseday next. I sent word of this to Court, but nothing will help it but money and a rope. Late at night I to Mr. Glanvill's, there to lie for a night or two, and to bed.