

Wardes and I walked without with Mr. Slingsby of the tower (who was there, and did in walking inform me mightily in several things; among others, that the heightening or lowering of money is only a cheat, and doth good to some perticular men; which, if I can but remember how, I am now by him fully convinced of); anon Sir W. Penn went away, telling me that W. Coventry, that was within, had told him that the fleet is all come in to the buoy of the Nore, and that he must hasten down to them, and so went away. And I into the committee chamber before the committee sat, and there heard Birch discourse highly and understandingly about the Navy business and a proposal made heretofore to farm the Navy. But W. Coventry did abundantly answer him – and is a most excellent person. By and by the committee met, and I walked out; and anon they rose and called me in, and appointed me to attend a committee of them tomorrow at the office to examine our lists. This put me into a mighty fear and trouble, they doing it in a very ill humour methought. So I away, and called on my Lord Brouncker to desire him to be there tomorrow. And so home, having taken up my wife at Unthankes – full of trouble in mind to think what I shall be obliged to answer, that am neither fully fit, nor in any measure concerned to take the shame and trouble of this office upon me; but only from the inability and folly of the Controller occasions it. When come home, I to Sir W. Penn to his boy for my book, and there find he hath it not, but delivered it to the doorkeeper of the committee for me. This, added to my former disquiet, made me stark mad, considering all the nakedness of the office lay open in papers within those Covers. I could not tell in the world what to do, but was mad on all sides; and that which made me worse, Capt. Cocke was there, and he did so swear and curse at the boy that told me. So Cocke, Griffin, and the boy with me – they to find out the housekeeper of the Parliament, Hughes, while I to Sir W. Coventry, but could hear nothing of it there; but coming to our Rendezvous at the Swan tavern in King street, I find they have found the housekeeper, and the book simply locked up in the Court. So I stayed and drank, and rewarded the doorkeeper and away home, my heart lighter by all this; but to bed very sad notwithstanding, in fear of what will happen tomorrow upon their coming.

3. Waked betimes, mightily troubled in mind, and in the most true trouble that I ever was in my life, saving in that business last