

Whitehall, where they set me down and stayed till I had been with the Duke of York, with the rest of us of the office, and did a little business; and then the Duke of York in good humour did fall to tell us many fine stories of the wars in Flanders, and how the Spaniards are the [best] disciplined foot in the world – will refuse no extraordinary service if commanded, but scorn to be paid for it, as in other countries, though at the same time they will beg in the streets. Not a soldier will carry you a cloak-bag for money for the world, though he will beg a penny, and will do the thing if commanded by his commander. That in the citadel of Antwerp, a soldier hath not a liberty of begging till he hath served three years. They will cry out against their King and commanders and generals, none like them in the world, and yet will not hear a stranger say a word of them but he will cut his throat. That upon a time, some of the commanders of their army exclaiming against their generals, and particularly the Marquis de Caranene, the confessor of the Marquis coming by and hearing them, he stops and gravely tells them that the three great trades of the world are, the Lawyer[s], who govern the world – the Churchmen, who enjoy the world – and a sort of fools whom they call Souldiers, who make it their work to defend the world. He told us too, that Turein being now become a Catholique, he is likely to get over the head of Colbert, their interests being contrary; the latter to promote Trade and the sea (which, says the Duke of York, is that that we have most cause to fear); and Turin to employ the King and his forces by land, to encrease his conquests. Thence to the coach to my wife and so home; and there with W. Hewer to my office to do some business, and so set down my journall for four or five days; and then home to supper and read a little, and to bed. W. Hewer tells me today that he hears that the King of France hath declared in print that he doth intend this next summer to forbid his commanders to strike to us, but that both we and the Dutch shall strike to him. And that he hath made his captains swear it already, that they will observe it – which is a great thing if he doth it, as I know nothing to hinder him.

21. My own coach carrying me and my boy Tom, who goes with me in the room of W. Hewer who could not, and I dare not go alone, to the Temple and there set me down – the first time my fine horses ever carried me, and I am mighty proud of them; and there took a hackney and to Whitehall, where a Committee of Tanger, but little to do; and so away home, calling at the Exchange and