

thoughts or advice of mine, well knowing your Lordship needs not any. But, with a most faithful assurance that no person nor papers under Heaven is privy to what I here write, besides myself and this, which I shall be careful to have put into your own hands, I rest confident of your Lordships just construction of my dutiful intents herein, and in all humility take leave.

May it please your Lordship, Your Lordships most obedient servant,

S.P. Nov. 17. 1663.

*Memorandum.* The letter foregoing was sent sealed up, and enclosed in this that fallows.

*My Lord.*

If this finds your Lordshipp either not alone or not at leisure, I beg the suspending your opening of the enclosed till you shall be both – (the matter very well bearing such a delay) and in all humility remain.

May it please your Lordshipp, Your Lordships most obedient servant,

S.P. Nov. 17. 1663.

My servant hath my directions to put this into your Lordships own hand, but not to stay for any answer.

19. With Sir G. Carteret by coach to my Lord Treasurer, to discourse with him about Mr. Gauden's having of money and to offer to him whether it would not be necessary, Mr. Gaudens credit being so low as it is, to take security of him if he demands any great sum, such as 20000*l*, which now ought to be paid him. My Lord Treasurer we found in his bed-chamber, being laid up of the gout; I find him a very ready man and certainly a brave servant to the King, he spoke so quick and sensibly of the King's charge. Nothing displeased me in him but his long nails, which he lets grow upon a pretty thick white short hand, that it troubled me to see them. Thence with Sir G. Carteret by coach, and he set me down at the New Exchange. In our way he told me there is no such thing likely yet as a Dutch war, neither they nor we being in condition for it, though it will come certainly to that in some time, our interests lying the same way, that is to say in trade. But not yet.

20. My wife tells me that she and her brother have had a great falling-out tonight, he taking upon him to challenge great obligation upon her, and taxing her for not being so as she ought to her