

nose to be cut. This day, my wife made it appear to me that my late entertainment this week cost me above 12*l*, a expense which I am almost ashamed of, though it is but once in a great while, and is the end for which in the most part we live, to have such a merry day once or twice in a man's life.

7. *Lords day.* Up and to the office, busy till church time; and then to church, where a dull sermon; and so home to dinner all alone with my wife, and then to even my journall to this day; and then to the Tower to see Sir W. Coventry, who had H. Jermin and a great many more with him, and more, while I was there, came in; so that I do hear that there was not less then 60 coaches there yesterday and the other day – which I hear also, that there is a great exception taken at by the King and the Duke of Buckingham, but it cannot be helped.

9. Up, and to the tower and there find Sir W. Coventry alone, writing down his journall, which he tells me he now keeps of the material things; [upon] which I told him, and he is the only man that I ever told it to I think, that I have kept it most strictly these eight or ten years; and I am sorry almost that I told it him – it not being necessary, nor may be convenient to have it known. Here he showed me the petition he had sent to the King by my Lord Keeper; which was not to desire any admittance to imployment, but submitting himself therein humbly to his Majesty; but prayed the removal of his displeasure and that he might be set free. But by this discourse he was pleased to take occasion to show me and read to me his account, which he hath kept by him under his own hand, of all his discourse and the King's answers to him upon the great business of my Lord Clarendon. And really, I was mighty proud to be privy to this great transaction, it giving me great conviction of the noble nature and ends of Sir W. Coventry in it, and considerations in general of the consequences of great men's actions, and the uncertainty of their estates, and other very serious considerations.

11. Up and to Sir W. Coventry to the Tower, where I walked and talked with him an hour alone, from one good thing to another; who tells me that he hears that the Commission is gone down to the King with a blank to fill for his place in the Treasury; and he believes it will be filled with one of our Treasurers of the Navy, but which