

very few upon the Change – jealous of every door that one sees shut up, lest it should be the plague – and about us, two shops in three, if not more, generally shut up. Mighty merry with Capt. Cocke and Fenn at Sir G. Smiths, and a brave dinner. But I think Cocke is the greatest Epicure that is; eats and drinks with the greatest pleasure and Liberty that ever man did.

17. Up, and to the office,<sup>1</sup> where we sat all the morning; and at noon dined together upon some victuals I had prepared at Sir W. Batten's upon the King's charge. And after dinner, I having despatched some business and set things in order at home, we down to the water and by boat to Greenwich to the *Bezan* Yacht, where Sir W. Batten, Sir J. Mennes, my Lord Bruncker and myself, with some servants (among others, Mr. Carcasse, my Lord's Clerke, a very civil Gentleman) imbarked in the Yacht, and down we went most pleasantly – and noble discourse I had with my Lord Bruncker, who is a most excellent person. Short of Gravesend, it grew calme, and so we came to an Anchor – and to supper mighty merry. And after, it being moonshine, we out of the Cabbin to laugh and talk; and then, as we grew sleepy, went in, and upon ve[ll]vet cushions of the King's that belong to the Yacht fell to sleep – which we all did pretty well till 3 or 4 of the clock – having risen in the night to look for a new Comet which is said to have lately shone. But we could see no such thing.

18. Up about 5 a-clock and dressed ourselfs; and to sail again down to the *Souveraine* at the buoy of the Noure – a noble ship, now rigged and fitted and manned. We did not stay long, but to enquire after her readiness; and thence to Sheerenesse, where we walked up and down, laying out the ground to be taken in for a yard to lay provisions for cleaning and repairing of ships; and a most proper place it is for that purpose. Thence with great pleasure up the Meadeway, our yacht contending with Comissioner Pett's, wherein he met us from Chatham; and he had the best of it. Here I came by, but had not tide enough to stop at Quinbrough. With mighty pleasure spent the day in doing all and seeing these places, which I had never done before. So to the Hill house at Chatham, and there dined; and after dinner spent some time discoursing of business – among others, arguing with the Comissioner about his proposing

1. He is now back in London.