

now and then a noise of people stirring that waked me; and then it was a very rainy night; and then I was a little weary, that what between waking and then sleeping again, one after another, I never had so much content in all my life. And so my wife says it was with her.

24. We rose and set forth; but find a most sad alteration in the roade by reason of last night's rains, they being now all dirty and washy, though not deep. So we rode easily through and only drinking at Halloway at the sign of a woman with Cakes in one hand and a pot of ale in the other, which did give good occasion of mirth, resembling her to the mayd that served us; we got home very timely and well. And finding there all well, and letters from Sea that speak of my Lord's being well and his accion, though not considerable of any side, at Argier, I went straight to my Lady and there sat and talked with her; and so home again; and after supper, we to bed somewhat weary.

25. The Queene of England (as she is now owned and called) I hear, doth keep open Court and distinct at Lisbone. Thence, much against my nature and will (yet such is the power of the Devil over me I could not refuse it) to the Theatre and saw *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, ill done. And that ended, with Sir W. Pen and Sir G. Ascue to the Taverne and so home with him by coach. And after supper to prayers and to bed – in full quiet of mind as to thought, though full of business, blessed be God.

27. At noon met my wife at the Wardrobe – and there dined, where we find Capt. Country (my little Captain that I loved, who carried me to the Sound)<sup>1</sup> come with some Grapes and Millons from my Lord at Lisbone – the first that ever I saw any. And my wife and I eat some, and took some home. But the grapes are rare things. Here we stayed; and in the afternoon comes Mr. Edw. Mountagu to talk with my Lady and me about the provisions fit to be bought and sent to my Lord along with him. And told us that we need not trouble ourselves how to buy them, for the King would pay for all, and that he would take care to get them – which put my Lady and me into a great deal of ease of mind. Here we stayed and supped too; and after my wife had put up some of the grapes in a basket for

1. In 1659 Pepys had sailed with letters to Mountagu's fleet in the Baltic.