

upon me. For which I deserve to be beaten, if not really served as I am fearful of being; especially since, God knows, that I do not find honesty enough in my own mind but that upon a small temptation I could be false to her, and therefore ought not to expect more justice from her – but God pardon both my sin and my folly herein. To my office and there setting all the morning; and at noon dined at home. After dinner comes Pembleton again; and I being out of humour, would not see him, pretending business; but Lord, with what jealousy did I walk up and down my chamber, listening to hear whether they danced or no or what they did; notwithstanding I afterwards knew, and did then believe, that Ashwell was with them. So to my office awhile; and my jealousy still reigning, I went in and, not out of any pleasure but from that only reason, did go up to them to practise; and did make an end of *La Duchesse*, which I think [I] should with a little pains do very well. So broke up and saw him gone.

21. Being at supper, my wife did say something that caused me to oppose her in; she used the word “Devil,” which vexed me; and among other things, I said I would not have her to use that word, upon which she took me up most scornfully; which before Ashwell and the rest of the world, I know not nowadays how to check as I would heretofore, for less then that would have made me strike her. So that I fear, without great discretion, I shall go near to lose too my command over her; and nothing doth it more then giving her this occasion of dancing and other pleasure, whereby her mind is taken up from her business and finds other sweets besides pleasing of me, and so makes her that she begins not at all to take pleasure in me or study to please me as heretofore. But if this month of her dancing were but out (as my first was this night, and I paid off Pembleton for myself), I shall hope with a little pains to bring her to her old wont. This day, Susan that lived with me lately, being out of service, and I doubt a simple wench, my wife doth take her for a little time to try her, at least till she goes into the country; which I am yet doubtful whether it will be best for me to send her or no, for fear of her running on in her liberty before I have brought her to her right temper again.

22. Up pretty betimes; and shall I hope come to myself and business again after a small playing the truant, for I find that my interest and profit do grow daily, for which God be praised and