

resolved to whip him for that and many other faults today. I bid Will get me a rod, and he and I called the boy up to one of the upper rooms of the Controllers house toward the garden, and there I reckoned all his faults and whipped him soundly; but the rods were so small that I fear they did not much to hurt him, but only to my arme, which I am already, within a Quarter of an hour, not able to stir almost. After supper, to bed.

→ MARCH ←

1. My wife and I by coach, first to see my little picture that is a-drawing, and thence to the Opera and there saw *Romeo and Julett*, the first time it was ever acted. But it is the play of itself the worst that ever I heard in my life, and the worst acted that ever I saw these people do; and I am resolved to go no more to see the first time of acting, for they were all of them out more or less. Thence home, and after supper and wrote by the post – I settled to what I have long intended, to cast up my accounts with myself; and after much pains to do it and great fear, I do find that I am 500l in money beforehand in the world, which I was afeared I was not. But I find that I have spent above 250l this last half year, which troubles me much. But by God's blessing, I am now resolved to take up, having furnished myself with all things for a great while, and tomorrow to think upon some rules and obligacions upon myself to walk by.

2. *Lords day*. With my mind much eased, talking long in bed with my wife about our frugall life for the time to come, proposing to her what I could and would do if I were worth 2000l; that is, be a Knight and keep my coach – which pleased her; and so I do hope we shall hereafter live to save something, for I am resolved to keep myself by rules from expences. To church in the morning; none in the pew but myself. So home to dinner. And after dinner came Sir Wm. and talked with me till church time; and then to church, where at our going out I was at a loss by Sir W. Pen's putting me upon it whether to take my wife or Mrs. Martha (who alone was there); and I begun to take my wife, but he jogged me and so I took Martha and led her down before him and my wife.

3d. All morning at home about business with my brother Tom