

noon home, and by coach to Temple bar to a India shop and there bought a gown and Shash, which cost me 26s. And so [my wife] and Willett away to the Change, and I to my Lord Crew and there met my Lord Hinchinbrooke and Lady Jemimah, and there dined with them and my Lord – where pretty merry. And after dinner, my Lord Crew and Hinchinbrooke and myself went aside to discourse about my Lord Sandwiches business, which is in a very ill state for want of money; and so parted, and I to my tailors and there took up my wife and Willet, who stayed there for me, and to the Duke of York's playhouse; but the House so full, it being a new play *The Coffee House*, that we could not get in, and so to the King's House; and there going in, met with Knipp and she took us up into the Tiring-rooms and to the women's Shift, where Nell was dressing herself and was all unready; and is very pretty, prettier then I thought; and so walked all up and down the House above, and then below into the Scene-room, and there sat down and she gave us fruit; and here I read the Qu's to Knepp while she answered me, through all her part of *Flora's Figarys*, which was acted today. But Lord, to see how they were both painted would make a man mad – and did make me loath them – and what base company of men comes among them, and how lewdly they talk – and how poor the men are in clothes, and yet what a show they make on the stage by candlelight, is very observable. But to see how Nell cursed for having so few people in the pit was pretty, the other House carrying away all the people at the new play, and is said nowadays to have generally most company, as being better players. By and by into the pit and there saw the play; which is pretty good, but my belly was full of what I had seen in the House; and so after the play done, away home and there to the writing my letters; and so home to supper and to bed.

6. *Lords day*. Up, and dressed myself and so walked out with the boy to Smithfield to Cow lane to Lincolnes, and there spoke with him and agree upon the hour tomorrow to set out toward Brampton; but vexed that he is not likely to go himself, but sends another for him. Here I took a hackney coach, and to Whitehall and there met Sir W. Coventry and discoursed with him; and then with my Lord Brouncker and many others to end my matters, in order to my going into the country tomorrow for five or six days, which I have not been for now above three years.