

fleet. And so far we are from it, that we have not enough to stop the mouths of poor people and their hands from falling about our eares here, almost in the office. God give a good end to it. Sir G. Carteret told me one considerable thing. Ald. Backewell is ordered abroad upon some private score with a great sum of money – wherein I was instrumental the other day in shipping him away. It seems some of his Creditors have taken notice of it, and he was like to be broke yesterday in his absence – Sir G. Carteret telling me that the King and the Kingdom must as good as fall with that man at this time; and that he was forced to get 4000*l* himself to answer Backewells people's occasions, or he must have broke; but committed this to me as a great secret – and which I am heartily sorry to hear. Thence, after a little merry discourse of our marrying business, I parted; and by coach to several places, among others to see my Lord Brunker, who is not well but was at rest when I came. I could not see him, nor had much mind, one of the great houses within two doors of him being shut up; and Lord, the number of houses visited which this day I observed through the town, quite round in my way by Long Lane and London Wall.

7. Up, and having set my neighbour Mr. Hudson, wine cooper, at work drawing out a tierce of wine for the sending of some of it to my wife – I abroad, only taking notice to what a condition it hath pleased God to bring me, that at this time I have two tierces of claret – two quarter-cask of canary, and a smaller vessel of sack – a vessel of tent, another of Malaga, and another of white wine, all in my wine-cellar together – which I believe none of my friends of my name now alive ever had of his own at one time.

13. Lay long, being sleepy; and then up to the office, my Lord Brunker (after his sickness) being come to the office, and did what business there was; and so I by water, at night late, to Sir G. Carterets. But there being no oares to carry me, I was fain to call a Sculler that had a gentleman already in it; and he proved a man of love to Musique and he and I sung together the way down – with great pleasure, and an accident extraordinary to be met with. There came to Dinner, they having dined, but my Lady caused something to be brought for me and I dined well, and mighty merry, especially my Lady Slany and I about eating of Creame and brown bread – which she loves as much as I. Thence, after long discourse with them and my Lady alone, I and wife, who by agreement met me