

and fur caps very handsome comely men, and most of them with Hawkes upon their fists to present to the King. But Lord, to see the absurd nature of Englishmen, that cannot forbear laughing and jeering at everything that looks strange. So back and to the office; and there we met and sat till 7 a-clock, making a bargain with Mr. Wood for his Masts of New England.

30. *Lords day.* To church in the morning, and Mr. Mills made a pretty good sermon. It is a bitter cold frost today. Dined alone with my wife today with good content, my house being quite clean from Top to bottom. In the afternoon, I to the French church here in the City, and stood in the Isle all the sermon – with great delight hearing a very admirable sermon from a very young man, upon the Article in our creed (in order of Catechisme) upon the Resurrection. Thence home and to visit Sir W. Pen. Here was Sir W. Batten and his Lady and Mrs. Turner; and I very merry, talking of the confidence of Sir Rd. Ford's new-married daughter; though she married so strangely lately, yet appears at church as briske as can be and takes place of her elder sister, a maid. Thence home and to supper; and then, cold as it is, to my office to make up my monthly account; and I do find that through the fitting of my house this month, I have spent in that and Kitchin 50*l* this month. So that now I am worth but 660*l* or thereabouts. This being done I went home and to prayers and to bed. (This day I first did wear a muffle, being my wife's last year's muffle; and now I have bought her a new one, this serves me very well.)

Thus ends this month, in great frost. Myself and family all well, but my mind much disordered about my Uncles law business,¹ being now in an order of being arbitrated between us, which I wish to God it were done. I am also somewhat uncertain what to think of my going about to take a woman-servant into my house in the Quality of a Woman for my wife. My wife promises it shall cost me nothing but her meat and wages, and that it shall not be attended with any other expenses; upon which termes I admit of it, for that it will I hope save me money in having my wife go abroad on visitts and other delights. So that I hope the best, but am resolved to alter it if matters prove otherwise then I would have them.

Public matters in an ill condition of discontent against the heighth and vanity of the Court and their bad payments; but that which

1. See above, p. 228 (17 October) & n. 1.