

which we are sorry for. Our fleets on both sides are hastening out to Guinny.

26. This day my wife tells me Mr. Pen, Sir Wms son, is come back from France and came to visit her – a most modish person, grown, she says, a fine gentleman.¹

27. Up and to the office, where all the morning. At noon to the Change and there almost made my bargain about a ship for Tanger, which will bring me in a little profit with Capt. Taylor. Off the Change with Mr Cutler and Sir W. Rider to Cutlers house; and there had a very good dinner, and two or three pretty young ladies of their relations there. Thence to my Case-maker for my Stone case; and had it to my mind, and cost me 24s. – which is a great deal of money, but it is well done and pleases me. So doing some other small errands, I home and there find my boy Tom Edwards come – sent me by Capt. Cooke, having [been] bred in the King's chapel these four years. I purpose to make a clerk of him; and if he deserves well, to do well by him. Spent much of the afternoon to set his chamber in order; and then to the office, leaving him at home. And late at night, after all business was done, I called Will and told him my reason of taking a boy, and that it is of necessity, not out of any unkindness to him, nor should be to his injury. And then talked about his landlord's daughter² to come to my wife, and I think it will be. So home and find my boy a very schooleboy that talks innocently and impertinently; but at present it is a sport to us, and in a little time he will leave it. So sent him to bed, he saying that he used to go to bed at 8 a-clock. And then all of us to bed, myself pretty well pleased with my choice of a boy. All the news this day is that the Dutch are with 22 sail of ships of warr crewsing up and down about Ostend; at which we are alarmed. My Lord Sandwich is come back into the Downes with only eight sail, which is or may be a prey to the Dutch, if they knew our weakness and inability to set out any more speedily.

28. *Lords day*. Up, and with my boy alone to church – the first time I have had anybody to attend me to church a great while. Home to dinner and there met Creed; who dined, and we merry

1. This was William Penn, later the famous Quaker.

2. Mary Mercer.