

Court, and so left them to do what they pleased; and while they were debating it, the bosun of the ship did bring us out of the Kettle a piece of hot salt beef and some brown bread and brandy; and there we did make a little meal, but so good as I never would desire to eat better meat while I live – only, I would have cleaner dishes. By and by they had done, and called us down from the quarter-deck; and there we find they do sentence that the gunner of the *Defyance* should stand upon the *Charles* three hours, with his fault writ upon his breast and with a halter about his neck, and be made incapable of any office. The truth is, the man doth seem, and is I believe, a good man; but his neglect, in trusting a girle to carry fire into his cabin, is not to be pardoned. This being done, we took boat and home; and there a good supper was ready for us, which should have been our dinner. The Captains, desirous to be at London, went away presently for Gravesend, to get thither by this night's tide. And so we to supper, it having been a great snowy and mighty cold foul day; and so after supper, to bed.

27. Up, and did a little business, Middleton and I; then after drinking a little buttered ale, he and Hutchinson and I took coach, and exceeding merry in talk, to Dartford, Middleton finding stories of his own life at Barbados and up and down, at Venice and elsewhere, that are mighty pretty and worth hearing; and he is a strange good-companion and droll upon the road, more then ever I could have thought to have been in him. Here we dined and met Capt. Allen of Rochester, who dined with us and so went on his journey homeward. And we by and by took coach again, and got home about 6 at night, it being all morning as cold, snowy, windy, and rainy day as any in the whole winter past, but pretty clear in the afternoon. I find all well, but my wife abroad with Jane, who was married yesterday; and I to the office busy, till by and by my wife comes home; so home and there hear how merry they were yesterday; and I glad at it, they being married it seems very handsomely, at Islington, and dined at the old house and lay in our blue chamber, with much company and wonderful merry. The[oph]. Turner and Mary Battalier bridemaids, and Talb. Pepys and W. Hewers bridemen. Anon to supper and to bed, my head a little troubled with the muchness of business I have upon me at present. So to bed.

29. Up and by water to Whitehall, and there to the Duke of York