

✱MARCH✱

1. *Lords day.* Up very betimes and by coach to Sir W. Coventry, and there, largely carrying with me all my notes and papers, did run over our whole defence in the business of Tickets, in order to the answering the House on Thursday next; and I do think, unless they be set without reason to ruin us, we shall make a good defence. I find him in great anxiety, though he will not discover it, in the business of the proceedings of Parliament; and would as little as is possible have his name mentioned in our discourses to them; and peticularly the business of selling places is now upon his hand to defend himself in – wherein I did help him in his defence about the Flaggmaker's place which is named in the House. We did here do the like about the complaint of want of victuals in the fleet in the year 1666, which will lie upon me to defend also; so that my head is full of care and weariness in my employment. Thence home; and there, my mind being a little lightened by my morning's work in the arguments I have now laid together in better method for our defence to the Parliament, I to talk with my wife; and in lieu of a Coach this year, I have got my wife to be contented with her closet being made up this summer and going into the country this summer for a month or two to my father's, and there Mercer and Deb and Jane shall go with them; which [I] the rather do for the entertaining my wife, and preventing of fallings-out between her and my father or Deb – which uses to be the fate of her going into the country.

4-5. Up betimes and with Sir W. Penn in his coach to Whitehall, there to wait upon the Duke of York and the Commissioners of the Treasury, W. Coventry and Sir Jo. Duncombe – who do declare that they cannot find the money we demand; and we, that less then what we demand will not set out the fleet intended; and so broke up with no other conclusion then that they would let us have what they could get, and we would improve that as well as we could. So God bless us and prepare us against the consequences of these matters. Thence, it being a cold wet day, I home with Sir J. Mennes in his coach, and called by the way at my bookseller's and took home with me Kercher's *Musica*, very well bound. But I had no comfort to look upon them, but as soon as I came home fell to my work at the office, shutting the doors that we, I and my clerks, might not be interrupted; and so, only with room for a little dinner, we very busy