

man. But he is cracked a little in his head, though he speaks very reasonably and very well. He had but 20s. for his suffering it, and is to have the same again tried upon him – the first sound man that ever had it tried on him in England, and but one that we hear of in France, which was a porter hired by the virtuosi. Here all the afternoon till within night. Then I took coach and to the Exchange, where I was to meet my wife, but she was gone home; and so I to Westminster hall and there took a turn or two; but meeting nobody to discourse with, returned to Cary house and there stayed a little and saw a pretty deception of the sight, by a glass with water poured into it, with a stick standing up with three balls of wax upon it, one distant from the other – how these balls did seem double and disappear one after another, mighty pretty.

## ❖ DECEMBER ❖

3. At noon home to dinner and busy all the afternoon; and at night home and there met W. Batelier, who tells me the first great news, that my Lord Chancellor is fled this day. By and by to Sir W. Penn's, where I hear the whole, that my Lord Chancellor is gone and left a paper behind him for the House of Lords, telling them the reason of his retiring, complaining of a design for his ruin. But the paper I must get; only, the thing at present is great and will put the King and Commons to some new counsels certainly. So home to supper and to bed.

6. My Lord Anglesy told me how my Lord Northampton brought in a Bill into the House of Lords yesterday, under the name of *A Bill for the honour and privilege of the House, and mercy to my Lord Clarendon* – which he told me he opposed, saying that he was a man accused of treason by the House of Commons, and mercy was not proper for him, having not been tried yet, and so no mercy needful for him. However, the Duke of Buckingham did, and others, desire the Bill might be read; and it was for banishing my Lord Clarendon from all his Majesty's dominions and that it should be treason to have him found in any of them. The thing is only a thing of vanity and to insult over him; which is mighty poor I think, and so doth everybody else. By and by home with Sir J. Mennes, who tells me that my Lord Clarendon did go away in a Custom-house boat and is