

but found not Sir W. Coventry; so into the park and took a turn or two, it being a most sweet day; and so by water home, and with my father and wife walked in the garden, and then anon to supper and to bed.

28. After dinner, my wife away down with Jane and W. Hewer to Woolwich in order to a little ayre, and to lie there tonight and so to gather May dew tomorrow morning, which Mrs. Turner hath taught her as the only thing in the world to wash her face with, and I am contented with it. Presently comes Creed, and he and I by water to Foxhall and there walked in Spring garden; a great deal of company, and the weather and garden pleasant; that it is very pleasant and cheap going thither, for a man may go to spend what he will, or nothing, all as one – but to hear the nightingale and other birds, and here fiddles and there a harp, and here a jews trump, and here laughing, and there fine people walking, is mighty divertising. Among others, there were two pretty women alone, that walked a great while; which [being] discovered by some idle gentlemen, they would needs take them up; but to see the poor ladies, how they were put to it to run from them, and they after them; and sometimes the ladies put themselves along with other company, then the others drew back; at last, the ladies did get off out of the house and took boat and away. I was troubled to see them abused so; and could have found my heart, as little desire of fighting as I have, to have protected the ladies. So by water; set Creed down at Whitehall, and I to Old Swan and so home. My father gone to bed and wife abroad at Woolwich, I to Sir W. Penn, where he and his Lady and Pegg, and pretty Mrs. Lowther, her sister-in-law, at supper; where I sat and talked, and Sir W. Penn, half drunk, did talk like a fool and vex his wife, that I was half pleased and half vexed to see so much folly and rudeness from him; and so late home to bed.

29. Up and by coach to St. James's, where by and by up to the Duke of York; where among other things, our Parson Mills having the offer of another benefice by Sir Rob. Brookes, who was his pupil, he by my Lord Barkely's [desire] – is made one of the Duke's chaplains; which qualifies him for two livings. But to see how slightly such things are done; the Duke of York only taking my Lord Barkely's word upon saying that we, the Officers of the Navy, do say he is a good man and minister of our parish; and the Duke of York admits him to kiss his hand but speaks not one word