

bed and leave it to send away tomorrow by an Expresse.

3. Up, and all the morning till 3 in the afternoon examining and fitting up my pursers' paper, and so sent it away by an express. Then comes my wife, and I set her to get supper ready against I go to the Duke of Albemarle; and back again – and at the Dukes, with great joy, I received the good news of the decrease of the plague this week to 70, and but 253 in all; which is the least Bill hath been known these twenty years in the City – though the want of people in London is it that must make it so low, below the ordinary number for Bills. So home, and find all my good company I had bespoke, as, Coleman and his wife and Laneare, Knipp, and her surly husband. And good music we had, and among other things, Mrs. Coleman sang my words I set of *Beauty retire*, and I think it is a good song and they praise it mightily. Then to dancing and supper, and mighty merry till Mr. Rolt came in, whose pain of the Toothake made him no company and spoilt ours; so he away, and then my wife's teeth fell of akeing, and she to bed; so forced to break up all with a good song, and so to bed.

4. Up, and to the office – where my Lord Brouncker and I (against Sir W. Batten and Sir J. Mennes and the whole table) for Sir W. Warren in the business of his mast contract, and overcame them and got them to do what I had a mind to; endeed, my Lord being unconcerned in what I aimed at. So home to dinner, where Mr. Sheldon came by invitation from Woolwich; and as merry as I could be, with all my thoughts about me, and my wife still in pain of her teeth. He anon took leave and took Mrs. Barbary his niece home with him, and seems very thankful to me for the 10*l* I did give him for my wife's rent of his house; and I am sure I am beholding to him, for it was a great convenience to me. And then my wife home to London by water, and I to the office till 8 at night; and so to my Lord Brouncker, thinking to have been merry, having appointed a meeting for Sir J. Mennes and his company and Mrs. Knipp again; but whatever hindered I know not, but no company came, which vexed me, because it disappointed me of the glut of mirth I hoped for. However, good discourse with my Lord, and merry with Mrs. Williams's descants upon Sir J. Mennes and Mrs. Turner's not coming; so home and to bed.

5. I, with my Lord Brouncker and Mrs. Williams, by coach with