

garden, to dinner, Brouncker, J. Mennes, W. Penn, T. Harvey, and myself; and there had a dinner cost us 8s. 6d. apiece, a damned base dinner, which did not please us at all – so that I am not fond of this house at all, but do rather choose the Beare. After dinner, to Whitehall to the Duke of York and there did our usual business, complaining of our standing still in every respect for want of money; but no remedy propounded, but so I must still be.

Thence with our company to the King's playhouse, where I left them; and I, my head being full of tomorrow's dinner, I to my Lord Crews, there to invite Sir Tho. Crew; and there met with my Lord Hinchingbrooke and his Lady, the first time I spoke to her. I saluted her, and she mighty civil; and with my Lady Jem do all resolve to be very merry tomorrow at my house. My Lady Hinchingbrooke I cannot say is a beauty, nor ugly; but is altogether a comely lady enough, and seems very good-humoured, and I mighty glad of this occasion of seeing her before tomorrow. Thence home; and there find one laying of my napkins against tomorrow in figures of all sorts, which is mighty pretty; and it seems it is his trade and gets much money by it, and doth now and then furnish tables with plate and linen for a feast at so much – which is mighty pretty – and a trade I could not have thought of. I find my wife upon the bed, not very well, her breast being broke out with heate; which troubles her, but I hope it will be for her good. Thence I to Mrs. Turner and did get her to go along with me to the French pewterers, and there did buy some new pewter against tomorrow. And thence to Whitehall to have got a cook of her acquaintance, the best in England as she says. But after we have with much ado found him, he could not come; nor was Mr. Gentleman in town, whom next I would have had; nor would Mrs. Stone let her man Lewis come, whom this man recommended to me; so that I was at a mighty loss what in the world to do for a Cooke, Philips being out of town. Therefore, after staying here at Westminster a great while, we back to London and there to Phillips's and his man directed us to Mr. Levetts, who could not come; and he sent to two more, and they could not; so that at last, Levett, as a great kindness, did resolve he would leave his business and come himself, which set me in great ease in my mind; and so home, and there with my wife and people setting all things in order against tomorrow, having seen Mrs. Turner at home; and so late to bed.

14. Up very betimes, and with Jane to Levetts, there to conclude