

Stradwick, Scott, and their wifes dined. Here I saw first his Second wife, which is a very respectful* woman. But his dinner a sorry, poor dinner for a man of his estate – there being nothing but ordinary meat in it.

2. To my office, and there all the morning; and so home to dinner – where I found Pall (my sister) was come; but I do not let her sit down at table with me; which I do at first, that she may not expect it hereafter from me. After dinner I to Westminster by water – and there found my Brother Spicer at the Legg with all the rest of the Exchequer men (most of whom I now do not know) at dinner. I took a turne in the hall, and bought the King and Chancellors speeches at the dissolving the parliament last Saturday. This day I lent Sir W. Batten and Capt. Rider my chine of beef for to serve at dinner tomorrow at Trinity house, the Duke of Albemarle being to be there and all the rest of the Bretheren, it being a great day for the reading over of their new Charter which the King hath newly given them.

3. Early in the morning to the Exchequer, where I told over what money I have of my Lord's and my own there, which I find to be 970*l*: thence to Will's, where Spicer and I eat our dinner of a roasted leg of porke which Will did give us. And after that, I to the Theatre, where was acted *Beggars bush* – it being very well done; and here the first time that ever I saw Women come upon the stage. From thence to my father's, where I find my mother gone by Bird the carrier to Brampton, upon my uncles great desire, my aunt being now in despair of life. So home.

4. Office all the morning; dined at home, and Mr. Moore with me – with whom I had been early this morning at Whitehall at the Jewell Office, to choose of a piece of gilt plate for my Lord in returne of his offering to the King (which it seems is usuall at this time of the year, and an Earle gives 20 pieces in gold in a purse to the King). I chose a gilt tankard weighing 31 ounces and a half, and he is allowed 30; so I paid 12*s*. for the ounce and a half over what he is to have. But strange it was to me to see what a company of small Fees I was called upon by a great many to pay there; which I perceive is the manner that courtiers do get their estates. After dinner Mr. Moore and I to the Theatre, where was *The Scornefull Lady* acted very well