

ever made to any man; and the next, I remember I told my wife, I believe would be a pound of candles or a shoulder of mutton. But the fellow doth it in kindness and is one I am beholding to.

3. *Lords day*. Up before 5 a-clock, and alone at setting my Brampton papers to rights according to my father's and my computation and resolution the other day, to my good content. To dinner with my wife, who not being very well, did not dress herself but stayed at home all day; and so I to church in the afternoon; and so home again and up to teach Ashwell the grounds of time and other things on the Tryangle, and made her take out a psalm very well, she having a good eare and hand. And so a while to my office and then home to supper – and prayers, to bed – my wife and I having a little falling-out because I would not leave my discourse below with her and Ashwell to go up and talk with her alone upon something she hath to say. She reproached me that I rather talk with anybody then her – by which I find I think she is jealous of my freedom with Ashwell – which I must avoid giving occasion of.

4. The Dancing Maister came; whom standing by seeing him instructing my wife, when he had done with her he would needs have me try the steps of a *Coranto*; and what with his desire and my wife's importunity, I did begin, and then was obliged to give him entry-money, 10s. – and am become his Scholler. The truth is, I think it is a thing very useful for any gentleman and sometimes I may have occasion of using it; and though it cost me, which I am heartily sorry it should, besides that I must by my oath give half as much more to the poor, yet I am resolved to get it up some other way; and then it will not be above a month or two in a year. So though it be against my stomach, yet I will try it a little while; if I see it comes to any great inconvenience or charge, I will fling it off. After I had begun with the steps of half a *coranto*, which I think I shall learn well enough, he went away and we to dinner.

5. To my office, busy late, writing letters; and then came Sir W. Warren, staying for a letter in his business by the post, and while that was writing, he and I talk about merchandise, trade and getting of money. I made it my business to enquire what way there is for a man bred like me to come to understand anything of trade. He did most discretely answer me in all things, showing me the danger for me to meddle either in ships or merchandise of any sort, or