

Faulconberge, Shadwell, Taylor, Spicer, Woodruffe, Servington, &c.; and here I made them a foolish promise to give them one this day twelvemonth, and so for ever while I live. But I do not entend it.

31. My wife and I this morning to the paynters; and there she sat the last time and I stood by and did tell him some little things to do, that now her picture I think will please me very well. And after her, her little black dogg sat in her lap and was drawn, which made us very merry. So home to dinner, and so to the office and there late, finishing our estimate of the debts of the Navy to this day; and it comes to near 374000l.

So home; and after supper and my barber had trimmed me, I sat down to end my Journall for this year; and my condition at this time, by God's blessing, is thus: My health (only upon ketching cold, which brings great pain in my back and making of water, as it use to be when I had the stone) very good, and so my wife's in all respects. My servants, W. Hewer, Sarah, Nell, and Waynman. My house at the Navy Office. I suppose myself to be worth about 500l clear in the world, and my goods of my house my owne, and what is coming to me from Brampton when my father dies – which God defere. But by my uncles death, the whole care and trouble of all and settling of all lies upon me; which is very great because of law-suits, especially that with T. Trice about the inter[e]st of 200l – which will I hope be ended soon. My chiefest thoughts is now to get a good wife for Tom – there being one offered by the Joyces, a cousin of theirs, worth 200l in ready money. I am also upon writing a little treatise to present to the Duke, about our privilege in the seas as to other nations striking their flags to us. But my greatest trouble is that I have for this last half-year been a very great spendthrift in all manner of respects, that I amafeard to cast up my accounts, though I hope I am worth what I say above. But I will cast them up very shortly. I have newly taken a solemne oath about abstaining from plays and wine, which I am resolved to keep according to the letter of the oath, which I keepe by me. The fleete hath been ready to sail for Portugall, but hath lack[ed] wind this fortnight. And by that means my Lord is forced to keep at sea all this winter till he brings home the Queen – which is the expectacion of all now – and the greatest matter of public talk.