

Long acre, in so ill-looked a place, among all the bawdy-houses, that I was troubled at it to see her go thither. Thence I to Whitehall and there walked up and down, talking with Mr. Pierce, who tells me of the King's giving of my Lord Fitzharding two leases, which belongs endeed to the Queene, worth 20000*l* to him, and how people do talk of it – and other things of that nature, which I am sorry to hear. He and I walked round the parke with great pleasure and back again; and finding no time to speak with my Lord of Albemarle, I walked to the Change and there met my wife at our pretty Dolls and so took her home, and Creed also, whom I met there, and sent her home while Creed and I stayed on the Change; and by and by home and dined – where I found an excellent Mastiffe, his name Towzer, sent me by a surgeon. After dinner I took my wife again by coach (leaving Creed by the way, going to Gresham College, of which he is now become one of the Virtuosos) and to Whitehall, where I delivered a paper about Tanger to my Lord Duke of Albemarle in the council chamber; and so to Mrs. Hunts to call my wife, and so by coach straight home and at my office till 3 a-clock in the morning – having spent much time this evening in discourse with Mr. Cutler, who tells me how the Dutch deal with us abroad and do not value us anywhere. And how he and Sir W. Rider have found reason to lay aside Capt. Cocke in their company, he having played some indiscreet and unfair tricks with them, and hath lost himself everywhere by his imposing upon all the world with the conceit he hath of his own wit. And so hath, he tells me, Sir Rd. Ford also, both of whom are very witty men. He being gone, Sir W. Rider come and stayed with me till about 12 at night, having found ourselfs work till that time about understanding the measuring of Mr. Woods masts; which though I did so well before as to be thought to deal very hardly against Wood, yet I am ashamed I understood it no better and do hope yet, whatever be thought of me, to save the King some more money. And out of an impatience to break up with my head full of confused confounded notions but nothing brought to a clear comprehension, I was resolved to set up, and did, till now it is ready to strike 4 a-clock, all alone, cold, and my candle not enough left to light me to my own house; and so, with my business however brought to some good understanding and set it down pretty clear, I went home to bed, with my mind at good quiet and the girle setting up for me (the rest all a-bed); I eat and drank a little and to bed, weary, sleepy, cold, and my head akeing.