

variety in a business of this value. There till after candle-lighting, and so home by coach with Sir D. Gawden, who by the way tells me how the City doth go on in several things toward the building of the public places; which I am glad to hear, and gives hope that in a few years it will be a glorious place. But we met with several stops and new troubles in the way in the streets, so as makes it bad to travel in the dark now through the City. So I to Mr. Bateliers by appointment, where I find my wife and Deb and Mercer – Mrs. Pierce and her husband, son and daughter; and Knipp and Harris; and W. Batelier and his sister Mary and cousin Gumbleton, a good-humoured, fat young gentleman, son to the Jeweller, that dances well. And here danced all night long, with a noble supper; and about 2 in the morning, the table spread again for a noble breakfast, beyond all moderation, that put me out of countenance – so much and so good. Mrs. Pierce and her people went home betimes, she being big with child; but Knipp and the rest stayed till almost 3 in the morning, and then broke up and Knipp home with us; and I to bed and rose about 6 – mightily pleased with this night's mirth; and away by water to St. James's and there with Mr. Wren did correct his copy of my letter; which the Duke of York hath signed in my very words, without alteration of a syllable.

And so, pleased therewith, I to my Lord Brouncker, who I find within, but hath business and so comes not to the office today; and so I by water to the office, where we sat all the morning; and just as the Board rises, comes the Duke of York's letter; which I knowing, and the Board not being full and desiring rather to have the Duke of York deliver himself to us, I suppressed it for this day, my heart beginning to falsify in this business – as being doubtful of the trouble it may give me by provoking them; but however, I am resolved to go through it, and it is too late to help it now. At noon to dinner to Capt. Cocke's, where I met with Mr. Wren, my going being to tell him what I have done; which he likes – and to confer with Cocke about our office; who tells me that he is confident the design of removing our officers doth hold, but that he is sure that I am safe enough – which pleases me; though I do not much show it to him, but as a thing indifferent. So away home, and there met at Sir Rd. Ford's with the Duke of York's Commissioners about our prizes, with whom we shall have some trouble before we make an end with them. And thence, staying a little with them, I with my wife and W. Batelier and Deb; carried them to Bartholomew fayre, where we saw the dancing of the ropes and nothing else, it being