

9. *Lords day*. Lay pretty long; but however, up time enough with my wife to go to church. Then home to dinner; and Mr. Fuller (my Cambridge acquaintance) coming to me about what he was with me lately, to release a waterman, he told me he was to preach at Barking church; and so I to hear him, and he preached well and neatly. Thence, it being time enough, to our own church; and there stood privately at the great doore to gaze upon a pretty lady and from church dogged her home, whither she went to a house near Tower hill; and I think her to be one of the prettiest women I ever saw. So home and at my office a while, busy; then to my Uncle Wights, whither it seems my wife went after sermon, and there supped; but my aunt and uncle in a very ill humour one with another, but I made shift with much ado to keep them from scolding; and so after supper, home – and to bed without prayers, it being cold and tomorrow washing-day.

10. This day by the blessing of God, my wife and I have been married nine years¹ – but my head being full of business, I did not think of it, to keep it in any extraordinary manner. But bless God for our long lives and loves and health together, which the same God long continue, I wish from my very heart.

13. After being at the office all the morning, I home and dined; and taking leave of my wife, with my mind not a little troubled how she would look after herself or house in my absence, especially too, leaving a considerable sum of money in the office, I by coach to the Red Lyon in Aldersgate Streete and there by agreement met W. Joyce and Tom Trice, and mounted – I upon a very fine mare that Sir W. Warren helps me to. And so very merrily rode till it was very dark, I leading the way through the dark to Welling; and there, not being very weary, to supper and to bed – but very bad accomodation at the Swan. In this day's Journy I met with Mr. White, Cromwells Chaplin that was, and had a great deal of discourse with him. Among others, he tells me that Richard [Cromwell] is and hath long been in France, and is now going into Italy – he owns publicly that he doth correspond and return him all his money. That Richard hath been in some straits at the beginning, but relieved by his friends. That he goes by another name, but doth not disguise himself nor deny himself to any man that challenges him.

1. See above, p. 159 (10 October) & n.