

and I all alone, and very kind, full of good discourse; and after dinner, I to my chamber, ordering my Tanger accounts to give to the Auditor in a day or two, which should have been long ago with him. At them to my great content all the afternoon till supper and after supper (with my wife, W. Hewer and Deb, pretty merry) till 12 at night, and then to bed.

13. Up, and Mr. Gibbs comes to me and I give him instructions about the writing fair my Tanger accounts against tomorrow. So I abroad with Sir W. Penn to Whitehall, and there did with the rest attend the Duke of York, where nothing extraordinary; only I perceive there is nothing yet declared for the next year what fleet shall be abroad. Thence homeward by coach and stopped at Martins my bookseller, where I saw the French book which I did think to have had for my wife to translate, called *L'escholle de Filles*, but when I came to look into it, it is the most bawdy, lewd book that ever I saw, rather worse then *putana errante* – so that I was ashamed of reading in it; and so away home, and there to the Change to discourse with Sir H. Cholmly and so home to dinner; and in the evening, having done some business, I with my wife and girl out, and left them at Unthankes while I to Whitehall to the Treasury chamber for an order for Tanger; and so back, took up my wife, and home, and there busy about my Tanger accounts against tomorrow, which I do get ready in good condition; and so with great content to bed.

16. Up, after talking with my wife with pleasure about her learning on the Flag[el]ette a month or two again this winter, and all the rest of the year her painting, which I do love. And so to the office, where sat all the morning. At noon home to dinner with my gang of clerks, in whose society I am mightily pleased, and mightily with Mr. Gibsons talking; he telling me so many good stories relating to the Warr and practices of commanders, which I will find a time to recollect; and he will be an admirable help to my writing a history of the Navy, if ever I do. So to the office, where busy all the afternoon and evening, and then home. My work this night with my clerks till midnight at the office was to examine my list of ships I am making for myself, and their dimensions, and to see how it agrees or differs from other lists; and I do find so great a difference between them all, that I am at a loss which to take; and therefore think mine to be as much depended upon as any I can