

dinner; but I thought it would be better to go without it because of the Crowde, and so I did not wear it. In dressing myself and wanting a band, I found all my bands that were newly made clean, so ill-smoothed that I crumpled them and flung them all on the ground and was angry with Jane, which made the poor girl mighty sad, so that I were troubled for it afterwards. At noon I went forth, and by coach to Guild Hall (by the way calling to shit at Mr. Rawlinsons) and there was admitted; and meeting with Mr. Proby (Sir R. Ford's son) and Lieut.-Coll. Baron, a City commander, we went up and down to see the tables; where under every salt there was a Bill of fare, and at the end of the table the persons proper for that table. Many were the tables, but none in the Hall but the Mayors and the Lords of the privy Councell that had napkins or knives – which was very strange. We went into the Buttry and there stayed and talked, and then into the hall again; and there wine was offered and they drunk, I only drinking some Hypocras, which doth not break my vowe, it being, to the best of my present judgment, only a mixed compound drink, and not any wine – if I am mistaken, God forgive me; but I hope and do think I am not. By and by met with Creed; and we with the others went within the several Courts and there saw the tables prepared for the ladies and Judges and Bishops – all great sign of a great dinner to come. By and by, about one a-clock, before the Lord Mayor came, came into the hall, from the room where they were first led into, the Lord Chancellor (Archbishopp before him), with the Lords of the Council and other Bishoppes, and they to dinner. Anon comes the Lord Mayor, who went up to the Lords and then to the other tables to bid wellcome; and so all to dinner. I set near Proby, Baron, and Creed at the Merchant Strangers table – where ten good dishes to a messe, with plenty of wine of all sorts, of which I drunk none; but it was very unpleasing that we had no napkins nor change of trenchers, and drunk out of earthen pitchers and wooden dishes. It happened that, after the Lords had half dined, came the French Ambassador up to the Lords' table, where he was to have sat; but finding the table set, he would not sit down nor dine with the Lord Mayor, who was not yet come, nor have a table to himself, which was offered; but in a discontent went away again. After I had dined, I and Creed rose and went up and down the house, and up to the ladies room and there stayed gazing upon them. But though there were many and fine, both young and old, yet I could not discern one handsome face there, which was very strange. I expected