

night, we did here all get good beds – and I lay in the same I did before, with Mr. Brisband, who is a good scholar and sober man; and we lay in bed, getting him to give me an account of Rome, which is the most delightful talk a man can have of any traveller. And so to sleep – my eyes much troubled already with the change of my drink.

Thus I ended this month with the greatest joy that ever I did any in my life, because I have spent the greatest part of it with abundance of joy and honour, and pleasant Journys and brave entertainments, and without cost of money. And at last live to see that business ended with great content on all sides. This evening with Mr. Brisband speaking of enchantments and spells, I telling him some of my Charmes, he told me this of his own knowledge at Bourdeaux in France. The words these –

*Voicy un Corps mort  
Royde comme un Baston  
Froid comme Marbre  
Leger comme un Esprit,  
Levons te au nom de Jesus Christ.*

He saw four little Girles, very young ones, all kneeling, each of them upon one knee; and one begin the first line, whispering in the eare of the next, and the second to the third, and the third to the fourth, and she to the first. Then the first begun the second line, and so round quite through. And putting each one finger only to a boy that lay flat upon his back on the ground, as if he was dead. At the end of the words, they did with their four fingers raise this boy as high as they could reach. And he being there and wondering at it (as also being afeared to see it – for they would have had him to have bore a part in saying the words in the room of one of the little girls, that was so young that they could hardly make her learn to repeat the words), did, for fear there might be some sleight used in it by the boy, or that the boy might be light, called the cook of the house, a very lusty fellow, as Sir G. Carteret's Cooke, who is very big, and they did raise him just in the same manner. This is one of the strangest things I ever heard, but he tells it me of his own knowledge and I do heartily believe it to be true. I enquired of him whether they were Protestant or Catholique girls, and he told me they were Protestant – which made it the more strange to me.

Thus we end this month, as I said, after the greatest glut of