

him up and cut his tongue to make him bleed, and his tail – the horse continued shakeing every part of him, as if he had been in an ague a good while, and his blood settled in his tongue, and the coachman thought and believed he would presently drop down dead. Then he blew some tobacco in his nose; upon which the horse sneezed, and by and by grows well and draws us the rest of the way as well as ever he did; which was one of the strangest things of a horse I ever observed – but he says it is usual. It is the staggers. Stayed and eat and drank at Islington at the old house, and so home and to my chamber to read; and then to supper and to bed.

20. Up, and to my chamber to set down my journall for the last three days; and then to the office – where busy all the morning. At noon home to dinner and then with my wife abroad; set her down at the Exchange and I to St. James's, where find Sir W. Coventry alone and fell to discourse of retrenchments; and thereon he tells how he hath already propounded to the Lord's committee of the Council how he would have the Treasurer of the Navy a less man, that might not sit at the Board but be subject to the Board. He would have two Contrallors to do his work, and two Surveyors, whereof one of each to take it by turns to reside at Portsmouth and Chatham, by a kind of Rotation. He would have but only one Clerk of the Acts. He doth tell me he hath propounded how the charge of the Navy in peace shall come within 200000*l*, by keeping out 24 ships in summer and 10 in winter. And several other particulars we went over of retrenchment; and I find I must provide some things to offer, that I may be found studious to lessen the King's charge.

24. *St. Bartholomew's day*. This morning was proclaimed the peace between us and the States of the United Provinces, and also of the King of France and Denmarke, and in the afternoon the proclamations were printed and came out. And at night the bells rung, but no bonfires that I hear of anywhere, partly from the dearness of firing but principally from the little content most people have in the peace. All the morning at the office. At noon dined, and Creed with me, at home. After dinner, we to a play and there saw *The Cardinall* at the King's House, wherewith I am mightily pleased; but above all with Becke Marshall. But it is pretty to observe how I look up and down for and did espy Knepp; but durst not own it to my wife that I saw her, for fear of angering her, who doth not like my kindness to her – and so I was forced not to take notice of her. And so