

the fleet and officers that are sober men do cry out upon their bad discipline, and the ruine that must fallow it if it continue. But that which I wonder most at, it seems their secretaries have been the most exorbitant in their fees to all sorts of people, that it is not to be believed that they durst do it, so as it is believed they have got 800*l* apiece by the very vacancies in the fleet. He tells me that Lady Castlemayne is concluded to be with child again. And that all the people about the King do make no scruple of saying that the King doth lie with Mrs. Stuart, whom he says is a most excellent-natured lady. This day the King begins to put on his Vest,¹ and I did see several persons of the House of Lords, and Commons too, great courtiers, who are in it – being a long Cassocke close to the body, of black cloth and pinked with white silk under it, and a coat over it, and the legs ruffled with black riband like a pigeon's leg – and upon the whole, I wish the King may keep it, for it is a very fine and handsome garment.

16. Up, and to the office, where sat to do little business but hear clamours for money. At noon home to dinner, and to the office again, after hearing my brother play a little upon the Lyra viall, which he doth so as to show that he hath a love to Musique and a spirit for it – which I am well pleased with. I all the afternoon at the office, and at night with Sir W. Batten, W. Penn, J. Mennes at W. Penn's lodgings, advising about business and orders fit presently to make about discharging of ships come into the river, and which to pay first, and many things in order thereto. But it vexed me, that it being now past 7 a-clock, and the businesses of great weight and I had done them by 8 a-clock, and sending them to be signed, they were all gone to bed, and Sir W. Penn, though awake, would not, being in bed, have them brought him to sign. This made me quite angry. Late at work at the office, and then home to supper and to bed.

17. Up, and busy about public and private business all the morning at the office. At noon home to dinner, alone with my brother, with whom I had now the first private talk I have had, and find he hath preached but twice in his life. I did give him some advice to study pronunciation;* but I do fear he will never make a good speaker – nor, I fear, any general good scholar – for I do not

1. A new anti-French fashion.