

whether he would have a wife or no and what he was worth, and proposed Mrs. Wright for him; which she says she heard he was once enquiring after. She desired I would take a good time and manner of proposing it; and I said I would, though I believed he would love nothing but money, and much was not to be expected there she said. So away back to Clerkenwell church, thinking to have got sight of la belle Boteler again, but failed; and so after church walked all over the fields home; and there my wife was angry with me for not coming home and for gadding abroad to look after beauties, she told me plainly; so I made all peace, and to supper. This evening came Mrs. Lane (now Martin) with her husband to desire my help about a place for him; it seems poor Mr. Daniel is dead, of the Victualling Office – a place too good for this puppy to fallow him in – but I did give him the best words I could; and so after drinking a glass of wine, sent them going, but with great kindness. So to supper, prayers, and to bed.

3. Up. With Sir J. Mennes by coach to St. James's, and there all the news now of very hot preparations for the Dutch; and being with the Duke, he told us he was resolved to make a Tripp himself, and that Sir W. Pen should go in the same ship – which honour, God forgive me, I could grudge him for his knavery and dissimulation, though I do not envy much the having the same place myself. Talk also of great haste in the getting out another fleet and building some ships; and now it is likely we have put one another, by each other's dalliance, past a retreat. Thence, with our heads full of business, we broke up, and I to my barbers and there only saw Jane and stroked her under the chin; and away to the Exchange and there long about several businesses, hoping to get money by them. And thence home to dinner and there found Hawly. But meeting Bagwell's wife at the office before I went home, I took her into the office and there kissed her only. She rebuked me for doing it; saying, that did I do so much to many bodies else, it would be a stain to me. But I do not see but she takes it well enough; though in the main, I believe she is very honest. So after some kind discourse, we parted, and I home to dinner; and after dinner down to Deptford, where I found Mr. Coventry; and there we made an experiment of Hollands and our Cordage and ours out-did it a great deal, as my book of observations tells particularly. Here we were late. And so home together by water; and I to my office, where late putting things in order.