

setting backward of my business, that I cannot give a good account of it as I ought to do.

✧ MARCH ✧

1. Up, and to the office and there all the morning sitting; and at noon to dinner with my Lord Brouncker, Sir W. Batten, and Sir W. Penn at the White Horse in Lumbard street – where, God forgive us, good sport with Capt. Cockes having his maid sick of the plague a day or two ago, and sent to the pest-house, where she now is – but he will not say anything but that she is well. But, blessed be God, a good Bill this week we have – being but 237 in all, and 42 of the plague, and of them, but 6 in the City – though my Lord Brouncker says that these 6 are most of them in new parishes, where they were not the last week. Here was with us also Mr. Williamson, who the more I know, the more I honour. Thence I slipped after dinner without notice home, and there close to my business at my office till 12 at night, having with great comfort returned to my business by some fresh vows, in addition to my former and more severe; and a great joy it is to me to see myself in a good disposition to business. So home to supper, and to my journall and to bed.

2. Up, as I have of late resolved, before 7 in the morning, and to the office, where all the morning; among other things, setting my wife and Mercer with much pleasure to work upon the ruling of some paper for the making of books for pursers, which will require a great deal of work, and they will earn a good deal of money by it – the hopes of which makes them work mighty hard. At noon dined, and to the office again; and about 4 a-clock took coach and to my Lord Treasurer's, and thence to Sir Ph. Warwicke's new house by appointment, there to spend an hour in talking; and we were together above an hour, and very good discourse about the state of the King as to money, and peticularly, in that point, of the Navy. He endeavours hard to come to a good understanding of Sir. G. Carteret's accounts. And by his discourse, I find Sir G. Carteret must be brought to it, and he is a madman that he doth not do it of himself, for the King expects the Parliament will call upon him for his promise of giving an account of the money, and he will be ready