

endeed it is very much that that hath stood really in the room of 800000l now since Christmas, being itself but 1250000l. And so I do really take it to be a very considerable thing done by him, for the beginning, end, and every part of it is to be imputed to him. So home by water, and there hard, till 12 at night, at work, finishing the great letter to the Duke of York against tomorrow morning; and so home to bed. This day came home again my girle Susan, her sickness proving an ague, and she had a fit as soon almost as she came home. The fleet is not yet gone from the Nore. The plague encreases in many places, and is 53 this week with us.

14. Comes betimes a letter from Sir W. Coventry that he and Sir G. Carteret are ordered presently down to the fleet. I up, and saw Sir W. Penn gone also after them; and so I, finding it a leisure day, fell to making clean my closet in my office, which I did to my content, and set up my Platts again – being much taken also with Griffin's maid that did clean it – being a pretty maid. I left her at it and toward Westminster, myself with my wife, by coach; and meeting, took up Mr. Lovett the varnisher with us – who is a pleasant-speaking and humoured man, so my wife much taken with him, and a good deal of work I believe I shall procure him. I left my wife at the New Exchange, and myself to the Exchequer to look after my Tanger tallies; and there met Sir G. Downing, who showed me his present practice, now begun this day, to paste up upon the Exchequer door a note of what Orders upon the new Act are paid and now in paying. And my Lord of Oxford coming by also, took him and showed him his whole method of keeping his books, and everything of it, which endeed is very pretty; and at this day, there is assigned upon the Act 804000l. Thence at the New Exchange took up my wife again, and so home to dinner. After dinner to my office again to set things in order. In the evening, out with my wife and my aunt Wight to take the ayre, and happened to have a pleasant race between our Hackny coach and a gentleman's. At Bow we eat and drank, and so back again, it being very coole in the evening. Having set home my aunt and come home, I fell to examine my wife's kitchen book, and find 20s. mistake, which made me mighty angry, and great differences between us. And so in that difference, to bed.

17. To the office, where all the morning, with fresh occasions of vexing at myself for my late neglect of business, by which I cannot