

flocked to by people of all sorts against his going to sea. At the office did much business; among other, an end of that that hath troubled me long, the business of Bewpers and Flaggs. At noon to the Change; and thence by appointment was met with Bagwells wife, and she fallowed me into Moorefields and there into a drinking-house – and all alone eat and drank together. I did there caress her; but though I did make some offer, did not receive any compliance from her in what was bad, but very modestly she denied me; which I was glad to see and shall value her the better for it – and I hope never tempt her to any evil more.

4. Waked very betimes and lay long awake, my mind being so full of business. Then up and to St. James, where I find Mr. Coventry full of business, packing up for his going to sea with the Duke. Walked with him, talking, to Whitehall; where to the Duke's lodgings, who is gone thither to lodge lately. I appeared to the Duke; and thence Mr. Coventry and I an hour in the long gallery, talking about the management of our office. He tells me the weight of despatch will lie most upon me. And told me freely his mind touching Sir W. Batten and Sir J. Mennes – the latter of whom, he most aptly said, was like a lapwing; that all he did was to keep a flutter, to keep others from the nest that they would find. He told me an odd story of the former, about the Lighthouses: how just before, he had certified to the Duke against the use of them, and what a burden they are to trade – and presently after, at his being at Harwich, comes to desire that he might have the setting one up there – and gets the usefulness of it certified also by the Trinity house. After long discoursing and considering all our stores and other things – as, how the King hath resolved upon Capt. Taylor and Coll. Middleton, the first to be commissioner for Harwich and the latter for Portsmouth – I away to the Change and there did very much business. So home to dinner, and Mr. Duke, our Secretary for the Fishery, dined with me. After dinner, to discourse of our business – much to my content. And then he away and I by water among the smiths on the other side; and to the alehouse with one and was near buying four or five anchors, and learned something worth my knowing of them. And so home and to my office, where late, with my head very full of business; and so away home to supper and to bed.

5. Up, and to the office, where all the morning. At noon to the