

good Souldier but a debauched man,¹ which that place needs not to have. And so used these words: "That this place was to the King as my Lord Carnarvan says of Wood; that it is an Excrescence of the earth provided by God for the payment of debts." Thence away to Sir G. Carteret, whom I find taking physic; I stayed talking with him but a little, and so home to church and heard a dull sermon; and most of the best women of our parish gone into the country, or at least not at church. So home and find my boy not there, nor was at church; which vexed me, and when he came home I enquired; he tells me he went to see his mother; I sent him back to her to send me some token that he was with her; so there came a man with him back of good fashion; he says he saw him with her; which pacified me, but I did soundly threaten him before him. And so to dinner, and then had a little scolding with my wife for not being fine enough to go to the christening today; which she excused by being ill, as she was endeed, and cried; but I was in an ill humour, and ashamed endeed that she should not go dressed. However, friends by and by, and we went by water to Michell's; and there his little house full of his father and mothers and the kindred, hardly any else, and mighty merry in this innocent company; and Betty mighty pretty in bed, but her head akeing, not very merry; but the company mighty merry, and I with them; and so the child was christened, my wife, his father, and her mother the witnesses, and the child's name Elizabeth. So we had gloves and wine and wafers, very pretty, and talked and tattled; and so we away by water and up with the tide, she and I and Barker, as high as Barne Elmes, it being a fine evening; and back again to pass the bridge at standing-water between 9 and 10 at night; and then home and to supper, and then to bed with much pleasure. This day Sir W. Coventry tells me the Dutch fleet hath shot some shot, 4 or 500, into Burnt Iland in the Frith, but without any hurt; and so are gone.

6. Up; and angry with my maids for letting in watermen and I know not who, anybody that they are acquainted with, into the kitchen to talk and prate with them, which I will not endure. Then out and by coach to my Lord Treasurer's, who continues still very ill. Then to Sir Ph. Warwicke's house and there did a little business about my Tanger tallies; and so to Westminster hall and there to the Exchequer to consult about some way of getting our poor creditors

i. The Earl of Middleton.