

13. So my poor wife rose by 5 a-clock in the morning, before day, and went to market and bought fowle and many other things for dinner – with which I was highly pleased. And the chine of beef was done also before 6 a-clock, and my own Jacke, of which I was doubtful, doth carry it very well. Things being put in order and the Cooke come, I went to the office, where we sat till noon; and then broke up and I home – whither by and by comes Dr. Clerke and his lady – his sister and a she-Cosen, and Mr. Pierce and his wife, which was all my guest[s]. I had for them, after oysters – at first course, a hash of rabbits and lamb, and a rare chine of beef – next, a great dish of roasted fowl, cost me about 30s., and a tart; and then fruit and cheese. My dinner was noble and enough. I had my house mighty clean and neat, my room below with a good fire in it – my dining-room above, and my chamber being made a withdrawing-chamber, and my wife's a good fire also. I find my new table very proper, and will hold nine or ten people well, but eight with great room. After dinner, the women to Cards in my wife's chamber and the Doctor [and] Mr. Pierce in mine, because the dining-room smokes unless I keep a good charcole fire, which I was not then provided with. At night to supper; had a good sack-posset and cold meat and sent my guests away about 10 a-clock at night – both them and myself highly pleased with our management of this day. And indeed, their company was very fine and Mrs. Clerke a very witty, fine lady, though a little conceited and proud. So weary to bed. I believe this day's feast will cost me near 5*l*.

15. Up, and to my office preparing things. By and by we met and sat, Mr. Coventry and I, till noon. Then I took him in to dine with me, I having a wild goose roasted and a cold chine of beef and a barrel of oysters. We dined alone in my chamber, and then he and I to fit ourselves for horseback, he having brought me a horse; and so to Debtford, the ways being very dirty. There we walked up and down the yard and wet-dock and did our main business, which was to examine the proof of our new way of the Call-bookes, which we think will be of great use. And so to horse again and I home with his horse, leaving him to go over the fields to Lambeth – his boy at my house taking home his horse. I vexed, having left my key in my other pocket in my chamber and my door is shut, so that I was forced to set my boy in at the window; which done, I shifted myself, and so to my office till late.