

daughters of his, both very tall and the youngest very handsome, so much as that I could not forbear to love her exceedingly – having, among other things, the best hand that ever I saw. After dinner we went to fit books and things (Tom Hater being this morning come to us) for the Sale by an inch of candle. And very good sport we and the ladies that stood by had to see the people bid. Among other things sold, there was all the State's armes; which Sir W. Batten bought, intending to set up some of the images in his gardens and the rest to burn on the Coronacion night. The sale being done, the ladies and I and Capt. Pett and Mr. Castle took barge; and down we went to see the *Sovereigne*; which we did, taking great pleasure therein – singing all the way; and among other pleasures, I put my Lady, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Hempson, and two Mrs. Allen's into the lantern and I went in to them and kissed them, demanding it as a fee due to a Principall officer. With all which we were exceeding merry, and drank some bottles of wine and neat's tongue, &c. Then back again home and so supped; and after much mirth, to bed.

10. In the morning to see the Dock houses. First, Mr. Pett's the builder, and there was very kindly received. And among other things, he did offer my Lady Batten a parrot, the best ever I saw – that knew Mingo as soon as it saw him, having bred formerly in the house with them. But for talking and singing, I never heard the like. My Lady did accept of it. At night, to Hempson's: here we had, for my sake, two fiddles, the one a bass viall; on which he that played, played well some Lyra lessons,\* but both together made the worst musique that ever I heard. We had a fine collacion, but I took little pleasure in that, for the illnesse of the Musique and for the intentnesse of my mind upon Mrs. Rebecca Allen. After we had done eating, the ladies went to dance; and among the men we had, I was forced to dance too – and did make an ugly shift. Mrs. R. Allen danced very well, and seems the best-humourd woman that ever I saw. Among other things, Capt. Pett was saying that he thought that he had got his wife with Childe since I came thither.<sup>1</sup> Which I tooke hold of and was merrily asking him what he would take to have it said for my honour that it was of my getting? He merrily answered that he would, if I would promise to be godfather to it if it did come within the time just; and I said that I would. So that I must remember to compute it when the time comes.

1. In January 1661.