

and Mrs. Pierce (who came in accidentally), is mighty like, and I am sure I am mightily pleased, both in the thing and the posture. Thence with them home a little, and so to Whitehall and there met by agreement with Sir St. Fox and Mr. Ashburnham, and discoursed the business of our Excize tallies – the former being Treasurer of the guards, and the other Cofferer of the King's household – I benefited much by their discourse. We came to no great conclusion upon our discourse; but parted, and I home, where all things methinks melancholy in the absence of my wife. This day great news of the Swedes declaring for us against the Dutch; and so far as that, I believe it.<sup>1</sup> After a little supper, to bed.

7. Lay pretty long today, lying alone and thinking on several businesses. So up to the office, and there till noon; thence with my Lord Brouncker home by coach to Mrs. Williams's, where Bab Allen<sup>2</sup> and Dr. Charleton dined. Bab and I sang, and were mighty merry as we could be there, where the rest of the company did not overplease. Thence took her by coach to Hales's, and there find Mrs. Pierce and her boy and Mary. She had done sitting the first time, and ended her face is mighty like, at first dash. Thence took them to the cake-house, and there called in the coach for cakes, and drank; and thence I carried them to my Lord Chancellors new house to show them that, and all mightily pleased; thence set each down at home, and so I home to the office – where about 10 of the clock W. Hewers comes to me, to tell me that he left my wife well this morning at Bugden (which was great riding), and brings me a letter from her. She is very well got thither, of which I am heartily glad. After writing several letters, I home to supper and to bed. The Parliament, of which I was afeared of their calling us of the Navy to an account of the expense of money and stores, and wherein we were so little ready to give them a good answer. The Bishop of Munster, everybody says, is coming to peace with the Dutch, we having not supplied him with the monies promised him.

8. Up, and was in great trouble how to get a passage to Whitehall, it raining – and no coach to be had. So I walked to the Old Swan and there got a scull. To the Duke of Yorke, where we all met to hear the debate between Sir Tho. Allen and Mr. Wayth – the former

1. It was however untrue.

2. Mrs. Knepp.