

acquaintance of that Mr. Hill. This morning I stood by the King, arguing with a pretty Quaker woman that delivered to him a desire of hers in writing. The King showed her Sir J. Minnes, as a man the fittest for her quaking religion, saying that his beard was the stiffest thing about him. And again merrily said, looking upon the length of her paper, that if all she desired was of that length, she might lose her desires. She modestly saying nothing till he begun seriously to discourse with her, arguing the truth of his spirit against hers. She replying still with these words, “O King!”, and thou’d him all along.

12. Up and to the office, where we sat all the morning; and at noon to the Change awhile and so home – getting things against dinner ready. And anon comes my uncle Wight and my aunt with their Cozen Mary and Robert, and by chance my Uncle Tho. Pepys. We had a good dinner, the chief dish a swan roasted, and that excellent meat. At dinner and all day very merry. After dinner to Cards, where till evening; then to the office a little and to cards again with them – and lost half-a-Crowne. They being gone, my wife did tell me how my Uncle did this day accost her alone and spoke of his hopings she was with child; and kissing her earnestly, told her he should be very glad of it; and from all circumstances, methinks he doth seem to have some intention of good to us, which I shall endeavour to continue more then ever I did yet. So to my office till late and then home to bed – after being at prayers, which is the first time after my late vow to say prayers in my family twice in every week.

13. Up and to my office a little, and then abroad to many several places about business; among others, to the Geometrical Instrument makers, and then through Bedlam (calling by the way at a old bookseller’s, and there fell into looking over Spanish books and pitched upon some, till I thought of my oath when I was going to agree for them and so with much ado got myself out of the shop, glad at my heart, and so away) to the Afffrican house to look upon their book of contracts for several commodities for my information in the prize* we give in the Navy. So to the Coffee[-house] where extraordinary good discourse of Dr. Whist[l]ers upon my Question concerning the keeping of Masts, he arguing against keeping them dry, by showing the nature of Corrupcion in bodies and the several ways thereof.