

Mennes, who hath been down, but to little purpose, to pay the ships below at the Nore. This evening, having done my letters, I did write out the heads of what I had prepared to speak to the King the other day at my Lord Treasurer's, which I do think convenient to keep by me for future use. The weather is now grown warm again, after much cold weather; and it is observable that within these eight days I did see smoke remaining, coming out of some cellars, from the late great Fire, now above six months since. There was this day at the office (as he is most days) Sir W. Warren; against whom I did manifestly plead, and heartily too, God forgive me – but the reason is because I do find that he doth now wholly rely almost upon my Lord Brouncker.

17. *Lords day.* Up betimes with my wife, and by coach with Sir W. Penn and Sir Tho. Allen to Whitehall; there my wife and I the first time that ever we went to my Lady Jemimah's chamber at Sir Edw. Carteret's lodgings. I confess I have been much to blame and much ashamed of our not visiting her sooner, but better now then never. Here we took her before she was up, which I was sorry for, so only saw her and away to chapel, leaving further visit till after sermon. I put my wife into the pew below in the chapel; but it was pretty to see (myself being but in a plain band, and every way else ordinary) how the verger took me for her man I think; and I was fain to tell him she was a kinswoman of my Lord Sandwiches, he saying that none under Knight Baronets ladies are to go into that pew. So she being there, I to the Duke of York's lodging, where in his dressing-chamber he talking of his Journy tomorrow or next day to Harwich – to prepare some fortifications there; so that we are wholly upon the defensive part this year; only, we have some expectations that we may by our squadrons annoy them in their trade by the North of Scotland and to the Westward. That done, I to walk in the parke, where to the Queenes chapel and there heard a Fryer preach, with his Cord about his middle, in Portuguez – something I could understand, showing that God did respect the meek and humble as well as the high and rich. He was full of action; but very decent and good I thought, and his manner of delivery very good. I went back to Whitehall, and there up to the closet and spoke with several people till sermon was ended, which was preached by the Bishop of Hereford, an old good man, that they say made an excellent sermon. He was by birth a Catholique and a great gallant, having 1500*l* per annum patrimony, and is a Knight-