

I was content therewith and went home – and glad that I have got so much. Here I saw Mrs. Steward this afternoon, methought the beautifullest creature that ever I saw in my life, more then ever I thought her, as often as I have seen her – and I begin to think doth exceed my Lady Castlemayne, at least now.

28. Up, and with Sir W. Penn to Whitehall (setting his Lady and daughter down by the way at a mercer's in the Strand, where they are going to lay out some money); and to Whitehall, where, though it blows hard and rains hard, yet the Duke of York is gone a-hunting. We therefore lost our labour, and so back again – and I by hackney coach to several places to get things ready against dinner, and then home and did the like there, to my great satisfaction; and at noon comes my Lord Hinchingbrooke, Sir Tho. Crew, Mr. John Crew, Mr. Carteret, and Brisband. I had six noble dishes for them, dressed by a man-cook, and commended, as endeed they deserved, for exceedingly well done. We eat with great pleasure, and I enjoyed myself in it with reflections upon the pleasures which I at best can expect, yet not to exceed this – eating in silver plates, and all things mighty rich and handsome about me. A great deal of fine discourse, sitting almost till dark at dinner; and then broke up with great pleasure, especially to myself, and they away; only, Mr. Carteret and I to Gresham College, where they meet now weekly again. And here they had good discourse how this late experiment of the dog (which is in perfect good health) may be improved to good uses to men – and other pretty things, and then broke up. Here was Mr. Henery Howard, that will hereafter be Duke of Norfolke, who is admitted this day into the Society; and being a very proud man, and that values himself upon his family, writes his name, as he doth everywhere: *Henery Howard of Norfolke*. Thence home, and there comes my Lady Pen, Pegg, and Mrs. Turner, and played at cards and supped with us, and were pretty merry – and Pegg with me in my closet a good while, and did suffer me a la besar mucho et tocar ses cosas upon her breast – wherein I had great pleasure, and so spent the evening; and then broke up, and I to bed, my mind mightily pleased with this day's entertainment.

30. Up and with Sir W. Batten to Whitehall, and there we did attend the Duke of York and had much business with him. And pretty to see (it being St. Andrew's day) how some few did wear St. Andrew's Crosse; but most did make a mockery at it, and the