

needs no money, but would have her money bestowed on her – which I like well, he saying that he would adventure 2 or 300*l* with her. I like him as a most good-natured and discreet man, and I believe very cunning.* We came to this conclusion, for us to meet one another the next week, and then we hope to come to some end, for I did declare myself well satisfied with the mach. Thence to Hales, where I met my wife and people, and do find the picture, above all things, a most pretty picture and mighty like my wife – and I asked him his price: he says 14*l*; and the truth is, I think he doth deserve it. Thence toward London and home, and I to the office, where I did much, and betimes to bed, having had of late so little sleep, and there slept till 7 this morning.

17. Up, and to finish my Journall, which I had not sense enough the last night to make an end of – and thence to the office, where very busy all the morning. At noon home to dinner, and presently with my wife out to Hales's, where I am still infinitely pleased with my wife's picture. I paid him 14*l* for it, and 25*s*. for the frame, and I think it not a whit too dear for so good a picture. It is not yet quite finished and dry, so as to be fit to bring home yet. This day I begun to sit, and he will make me, I think, a very fine picture. He promises it shall be as good as my wife's, and I sit to have it full of shadows, and do almost break my neck looking over my shoulder to make the posture for him to work by. Thence home and to the office; and so home, having a great cold, and so my wife and Mrs. Barbary have very great ones – we are at a loss how we all come by it together. So to bed, drinking butter-ale. This day my W. Hewers comes from Portsmouth – and gives me an instance of another piece of knaveries of Sir W. Penn, who wrote to Comissioner Middleton that it was my negligence the other day he was not acquainted, as the Board directed, with our clerks coming down to the pay. But I need no new arguments to teach me that he is a false rogue to me, and all the world besides.

19. Up betimes, and upon a meeting extraordinary at the office most of the morning, with Lord Brouncker, Sir W. Coventry, Sir W. Penn – upon the business of the accounts – where, now we have got almost as much as we would have, we begin to lay all on the Controller – and I fear he will be run down with it, for he is every day less and less capable of doing business. Thence with my Lord Brouncker [and] Sir W. Coventry to the ticket office to see in what