

25. *Lords day.* Up, and several people about business came to me by appointment, relating to the office; thence I to my closet about my Tanger papers. At noon dined. And then I abroad by water, it raining hard, thinking to have gone down to Woolwich; but I did not, but back through bridge to Whitehall – where after I had again visited Sir G. Carteret and received his (and now his Lady's) full content in my proposal, I went to my Lord Sandwich; and having told him how Sir G. Carteret received it, he did direct me to return to Sir G. Carteret and give him thanks for his kind reception of this offer, and that he would the next day be willing to enter discourse with him about that business. Which message I did presently do, and so left the business, with great joy to both sides. My Lord, I perceive, entends to give 500*l* with her, and expects about 800*l* per annum joyniture. So by water home and to supper and bed, being weary with long walking at Court. But had a psalm or two with my boy and Mercer before bed, which pleased me mightily.

26. The plague encreases mightily – I this day seeing a house, at a bittmakers over against St. Clements church in the open street, shut up; which is a sad sight.

29. Up, and by water to Whitehall, where the Court full of waggons and people ready to go out of town. The Mortality bill is come to 267 – which is about 90 more then the last; and of these, but 4 in the City – which is a great blessing to us. So home, calling at Somersett house, where all are packing up too; the Queene-mother setting out for France this day to drink Bourbon waters this year, she being in a consumption – and entends not to come till winter come twelvemonths. To the office, where busy a while, putting some things in my office in order, and then to letters till night. About 10 a-clock home – the days being sensibly shorter: before, I have once kept a summer's day by shutting up office by daylight, but my life hath been still as it was in winter almost. But I will for a month try what I can do by daylight. So home to supper and to bed.

30. Thus this book of two years ends. Myself and family in good health, consisting of myself and wife – Mercer, her woman – Mary, Alce and Su, our maids; and Tom, my boy. In a sickly time, of the plague growing on. Having upon my hands the troublesome care