

men. That the King of France doth court us mightily. He tells me too, that our Lord Treasurer is going to lay down, and that my Lord Arlington is to be Lord Treasurer; but I believe nothing of it – for he is not yet of an estate visible enough to have that charge I suppose upon him. So being parted from him, I home to the office; and after having done business there, I home to supper; and there mightily pleased with my wife's beginning on the *Flagelette*, believing that she will come to [play] very well thereon. So to bed. This day in the barge I took Berchensha's translation of Alsted his *Templum*; but the most ridiculous book, as he hath translated it, that ever I saw in my life; I declaring that I understood not three lines together, from one end of the book to the other.

6. Up, and with W. Penn to Whitehall by coach. Here the Duke of York did acquaint us (and the King did the like also, afterward coming in) with his resolution of altering the manner of the war this year; that is, that we shall keep what fleet we have abroad in several squadrons; so that now all is come out, but we are to keep it as close as we can, without hindering the work that is to be done in preparation to this. Great preparations there are to fortify Sheerness and the yard at Portsmouth, and forces are drawing down to both those places, and elsewhere by the seaside; so that we have some fear of an invasion, and the Duke of York himself did declare his expectation of the enemy's blocking us up here in the River, and therefore directed that we should send away all the ships that we have to fit out hence. Sir W. Penn told me, going with me this morning to Whitehall, that for certain the Duke of Buckingham is brought into the Tower, and that he hath had an hour's private conference with the King before he was sent thither. To Westminster hall; there bought some newsbooks and, as everywhere else, hear everybody complain of the dearness of coals, being at 4*l* per chaldron; the weather too being become most bitter cold, the King saying today that it was the coldest day he ever knew in England.

12. At noon home and there find Mr. Goodgroome, whose teaching of my wife, only by singing over and over again to her and letting her sing with him, not by herself, to correct her faults, I do not like at all but was angry at it; but have this content, that I do think she will come to sing pretty well and to trill in time, which pleases me well. He dined with us; and then to the office, where we had a silly meeting to little purpose and then broke up; and I to my