

appointment, our full board met, and Sir Phillip Warwicke and Sir Robt. Long came from my Lord Treasurer to speak with us about the state of the debts of the Navy and how to settle it, so as to begin upon the new Foundation of 200000*l* per annum which the King is now resolved not to exceed.

25. *Lady day.* This evening came Capt. Grove about hiring ships for Tanger. I did hint to him my desire that I could make some lawfull profit thereof – which he promises, that he will tell me of all that he gets and that I shall have a share – which I did not demand, but did silently consent to it – and money, I perceive something will be got thereby. At night Mr. Bland came and sat with me at my office till late, and so I home and to bed. This day being washing-day and my maid Susan ill, or would be thought so, puts my house so out of order that we have no pleasure almost in anything, my wife being troubled thereat for want of a good cook-maid.

26. Up betimes and to my office – leaving my wife in bed to take her physique; myself also not being out of some pain today, by some cold that I have got by the sudden change of the weather from hot to cold. This day is five years since it pleased God to preserve me at my being cut of the Stone; of which, I bless God, I am in all respects well – only, now and then upon taking cold I have some pain, but otherwise in very good health alway. But I could not get my feast to be keeped today as it used to be, because of my wife's being ill and other disorders by my servants being out of order. This morning came a new Cooke-maid at 4*l* per annum, the first time I ever did give so much – but we do hope it will be nothing lost by keeping a good cook. She did live last at my Lord Monkes house. And endeed, at dinner did get what there was very prettily ready and neat for me, which did please me much.

—*APRILL*—

3. Going out of Whitehall, I met Capt. Grove, who did give me a letter directed to myself from himself; I discerned money to be in it and took it, knowing, as I found it to be, the proceed of the place I have got him, to have the taking up of vessels for Tanger. But I did not open it till I came home to my office; and there I broke it open,