

in order to the giving more to him that doth it, Mr. Randall, then contracted for; but I see no reason for it, though it be well done, yet not better then contracted to be. Here we eat and drunk at the Clerk of the Cheques; and in taking water at the Tower gate, we drank a cup of strong water, which I did out of pure conscience to my health; and I think is not excepted by my oaths, but it is a thing I shall not do again, hoping to have no such occasion. After breakfast there, Mr. Castle and I walked to Greenwich, and in our way met some Gypsies who would needs tell me my fortune, and I suffered one of them – who told me many things common, as others do, but bid me beware of a John and a Thomas, for they did seek to do me hurt. And that somebody should be with me this day sennit to borrow money of me, but I should lend them none. She got ninepence of me; and so I left them.

27. Up, after much pleasant talk with my wife and a little that vexes me, for I see that she is confirmed in it that all that I do is by design, and that my very keeping of the house in dirt,¹ and the doing of this and anything else in the house, is but to find her employment to keep her within and from minding of her pleasure. In which, though I am sorry to see she minds it, is true enough in a great degree.

28. At the office betimes (it being cold all night and this morning, and a very great frost they say abroad; which is much, having had no summer at all almost); where we sat, and in the afternoon also, about settling the Establishment of the number of men borne on ships, &c., till the evening; and after that, in my closet till late, and quite tired with business, home to supper and to bed.

29. To Jervas the barbers and there was trimmed and did deliver back a periwig which he brought me by my desire the other day to show me, having some thoughts, though no great desire or resolution yet to wear one. And so I put it off for a while. Thence to my wife, and calling at both the Exchanges, buying stockings for her and myself; and also at Leadenhall, where she and I, it being candlelight, bought meat for tomorrow, having ne'er a maid to do it; and I myself bought, while my wife was gone to another shop, a leg of beef, a good one, for sixpence, and my wife says is worth my

1. New floors had just been laid in the dining-room and elsewhere.