

speak with me about business – it seems my recommending of him hath not only obtained presently being admitted into the Duke of Albemarle's guard and present pay – but also, by the Dukes and Sir Ph. Howards directions, to be put as a right-hand man, and other marks of special respect; at which I am very glad, partly for him, and partly to see that I am reckoned something in my recommendations – but wish he may carry himself that I may receive no disgrace by him. Upon the Change today, Colvill tells me from Oxford that the King in person hath justified my Lord Sandwich to the highest degree – and is right in his favour to the uttermost. So late by water home, taking a barrel of oysters with me; and at Greenwich went and sat with Madam Penington, *con laquelle je faisais* almost whatever *je voudrais* – *con mi mano*, *sino tocar la chose même*; and I was very near it, and made her undress her head and set dishevelled all night, sporting till two in the morning; and so away to my lodging, almost cloyed with this dalliance, and so to bed. Overfasting all the morning hath filled me mightily with wind, and nothing else hath done it, that I fear a fit of the Cholique.

6. Up betimes, it being Fast day, and by water to the Duke of Albemarle, who came to town from Oxford last night. He is mighty brisk, and very kind to me and asks my advice principally in everything. He surprizes me with the news that my Lord Sandwich goes Ambassador to Spayne speedily – though I know not whence this arises, yet I am heartily glad of it. He did give me several directions what to do; and so I home by water again, and to church a little, thinking to have met Mrs. Pierce in order to our meeting at night. But she not there, I home – and dined; and comes presently by appointment my wife. I spent the afternoon upon a song of Solymán's words to Roxolana that I have set; and so with my wife walked, and Mercer, to Mrs. Pierces, where Capt. Rolt and Mrs. Knipp, Mr. Coleman and his wife, and Laneare, Mrs. Worship, and her singing daughter met; and by and by unexpectedly comes Mr. Pierce from Oxford. Here the best company for Musique I ever was in in my life, and wish I could live and die in it, both for music and the face of Mrs. Pierce and my wife and Knipp, who is pretty enough, but the most excellent mad-hum[ou]rd thing; and sings the noblest that ever I heard in my life, and Rolt with her, some things together most excellently – I spent the night in an ecstasy almost; and having invited them to my house a day or two hence, we broke up – Pierce having told me that he is told how the King