

liberty that he sees everybody else at Court takes.

11. We met and sat at the office all the morning. And at noon, I to the Change, where I met Dr. Pierce; who tells me that the King comes to town this day from Tunbrige to stay a day or two, and then fetch the Queen from thence – who he says is grown a very debonnaire lady and now hugs him and meets him galloping upon the road, and all the actions of a fond and pleasant lady that can be.

12. By water to my brother's and there I hear my wife is come and gone home, and my father is come to town also. I walked with him a little while and left him to lie at that end of the town, and I home – where methinks I find my wife strange, not knowing, I believe, in what temper she could expect me to be in; but I fell to kind words and so we were very kind; only, she could not forbear telling me how she had been used by them and her maid Ashwell in the country; but I find it will be best not to examine it, for I doubt she's in fault too, and therefore I seek to put it off from my hearing; and so to bed and there enjoyed her with great content. And so to sleep.

13. Lay long in bed with my wife, talking of family matters. And so up and to the office, where we sat all the morning. And then home to dinner; and after dinner my wife and I to talk again about getting of a couple of good maids and to part with Ashwell; which troubles me for her father's sake, though I shall be glad to have that charge taken away of keeping a woman.

17. Up; and then fell into discourse, my wife and I, to Ashwell; and much against my Will, I am fain to express a willingness to Ashwell that she should go from us; and yet in my mind I am glad of it, to ease me of the charge. So she is to go to her father this day. And leaving my wife and her talking highly, I went away by coach with Sir J. Mennes and Sir W. Batten to St. James and there attended of course* the Duke. And so to Whitehall, where I met Mr. Moore and he tells me with great sorrow of my Lord's being debauched, he fears, by this woman at Chelsy; which I am troubled at and resolve to speak to him of it if I can seasonably.

22. Up by 4 a-clock to go with Sir W. Batten to Woolwich, and Sir J. Mennes; which we did, though not before 6 or 7 by their lying a-bed. Our business was to survey the new wharfe building there,