

the Lords do entend to sit, and great store of them are now in town and I see in the Hall today. My Lord told me that there was great endeavours to bring in the Protector¹ again; but he told me too, that he did believe it would not last long if he were brought in; no, nor the King neither (though he seems to think that he will come in), unless he carry himself very soberly and well. Everybody now drink the King's health without any fear, whereas before it was very private that a man dare do it. My mind, I must needs remember, hath been very much eased and joyed in my Lord's great expression of kindness this day; and in discourse thereupon, my wife and I lay awake an hour or two in our bed.

7. *Ash wednesday.* My father newly come home from Brampton very well; who left my Uncle with his leg very dangerous, and he doth believe he cannot continue in that condition long. He tells me that my Uncle did acquaint him very largely what he did intend to do with his estate; to make me his Heire and to give my Brother Tom some things, and that my father and mother should have something likewise for to raise portions for Joh. and Pall: I pray God he may be as good as his word.

8. This noon I met with Capt. Holland at the Dog Taverne, with whom I advised how to make some advantage of my Lord's going to sea, which he told me might be by having of five or six servants entered on board, and I to give them what wages I pleased, and so their pay to be mine.

9. To my Lord at his lodging and came to Westminster with him in the coach, and he in the Painted chamber walked a good while; and I telling him that I was willing and ready to go with him to sea, he agreed that I should, and advised me what to write to Mr. Downing about it. All night troubled in my thoughts how to order my business upon this great change with me, that I could not sleep; and being overheated with drink, I made a promise the next morning to drink no strong drink this week, for I find that it makes me sweat in bed and puts me quite out of order.

10. In the morning went to my father, whom I took in his cutting-house; and there I told him my resolution to go to sea with my Lord

1. Richard Cromwell.