

King doth still sup every night with my Lady Castlemayne, who he believes hath lately slunk a great belly away, for from very big she is come to be down again. Thence to Mrs. Pierces and with her and my wife to see Mrs. Clarke; where with him and her very merry, discoursing of the late play of *Henry the 5th* – which they conclude the best that ever was made. I am mightily pleased with [Dr. Clarke] for he is the only man I know that I would learn to pronounce by, which he doth the best that ever I heard any man. Thence home and to the office late; and so to supper and to bed.

19. At noon dined at home; and after dinner my wife and I to Sir W. Penn's to see his Lady the first time – who is a well-looked, fat, short, old Dutchwoman, but one that hath been heretofore pretty handsome; and is now very discreet and I believe hath more wit than her husband. Here we stayed talking a good while. And very well pleased I was with the old woman at first visit. So away home, and I to my office; my wife to go see my aunt Wight, newly come to town. Creed came to me and he and I out; among other things, to look out a man to make a case for to keep my Stone that I was cut of in. And he to buy Daniels *History*; which he did, but I missed of my end. So parted upon Ludgate hill and I home and to the office, where busy till supper; and home to supper to a good dish of fritters, which I bespoke and were done much to my mind; then to the office a while again, and so home to bed.

23. Lay long, talking with my wife and angry a while about her desiring to have a French maid all of a sudden; which I took to arise from yesterday's being with her mother. But that went over, and friends again; and so she be well qualitied, I care not much whether she be French or no, so a protestant. Thence to the office; and at noon to the Change, where very busy getting ships for Guiny and for Tanger. So home to dinner; and then abroad all the afternoon, doing several errands to comply with my oath of ending many businesses before Bartholomew day, which is two days hence. Among others, I went into New Bridewell in my way to Mr. Cole, and is very handsome, several at work. And among others, one pretty whore brought in last night, which works very lazily. I did give them 6d. to drink, and so away – to Grayes Inn, but missed Mr. Cole and so homeward; called at Harman's and there bespoke some chairs for a room. And so home and busy late; and then to supper and to bed. The Dutch East India fleet are now come home safe,