

a good conscience therein, and I tell him that no man can (nor doth he say any say it) charge me with doing wrong; but rather do as many good offices as any man. However, I will make use of his counsel and take some Course to prevent having the single ill will of the office. Before I went to the office, I went to the Coffee-house where Sir J. Cutler and Mr. Grant came. And there Mr. Grant showed me letters of Sir Wm. Petts, wherein he says that his vessel which he hath built upon two Keeles (a modell whereof, built for the King, he showed me) hath this month won a wager of 50l in sailing between Dublin and Holyhead with the pacquett-boat, the best ship or vessel the King hath there. In their coming back from Holyhead, they started together; and this vessel came to Dublin by 5 at night and the pacquet-boat not before 8 the next morning; and when they came they did believe that this vessel had been drownded or at least behind, not thinking she could have lived in that sea. To bed – ending the month with pretty good content of mind. My wife in the country – and myself in good esteem and likely by pains to become considerable I think, with God's blessing upon my diligence.

AUGUST

4. To Westminster hall; and not finding Mrs. Lane, with whom I purposed to be merry, I went to Jervas's and took him and his wife over the water to their mother Palmers (the woman that speaks in the belly and with whom I had two or three years ago so good sport with Mr. Mallard), thinking, because I had heard that she is a woman of that sort, that I might there have light upon some lady of pleasure (for which God forgive me); but blessed be God, there was none nor anything that pleased me – but a poor little house which she hath set out as fine as she can. And for her singing which she pretends to, is only some old bawdy songs, and those sung abominably; only, she pretends to be able to sing both bass and treble; which she doth, something like but not like what I thought formerly and expected now. Nor doth her speaking in her belly take me now as it did then, but it may be that is because I know it and see her mouth when she speaks, which should not be.

5. All the morning at the office; whither Deane of Woolwich