

so we are all poor and in pieces, God help us; while the peace is like to go on between Spain and France, and then the French may be apprehended able to attack us. So God help us.

## → MAY ←

2. Up, and at the office all the morning. At noon with Lord Brouncker in his coach as far as the Temple, and there light and to Hercules Pillars and there dined; and thence to the Duke of York's playhouse at a little past 12, to get a good place in the pit against the new play; and there setting a poor man to keep my place, I out and spent an hour at Martin's my bookseller's; and so back again, where I find the house quite full; but I had my place, and by and by the King comes and the Duke of York; and then the play begins, called *The Sullen lovers or The Impertinents*, having many good humours in it; but the play tedious and no design at all in it. But a little boy, for a farce, doth dance Polichinelli the best that ever anything was done in the world by all men's report – most pleased with that, beyond anything in the world, and much beyond all the play. Thence to the King's House to see Knipp, but the play done; and so I took a hackney alone, and to the park and there spend the evening, and to the Lodge and drank new milk; and so home to the office, ended my letters and, to spare my eyes, home and played on my pipes; and so to bed.

5. Up, and all the morning at the office. At noon home to dinner, and Creed with me; and after dinner, he and I to the Duke of York's playhouse; and there coming late, he and I up to the Balcony-box, where we find my Lady Castlemayne and several great ladies and there we sat with them. And I saw *The Impertinents* once more, now three times, and the three only days it hath been acted; and to see the folly how the house doth this day cry up the play more then yesterday; and I for that reason like it, I find, the better too. By Sir Positive At all, I understand, is meant Sir Rob. Howard. My Lady pretty well pleased with it; but here I sat close to her fine woman, Willson, who endeed is very handsome, but they say with child by the King. I asked, and she told me this was the first time her Lady had seen it, I having a mind to say something to her. One thing of familiarity I observed in my Lady Castlemayne; she called to one of