

psalm and half another sung out while the Sexton gathered what the church would give him for this last year (I gave him 3s., and have the last week given the Clerke 2s., which I set down that I may know what to do the next year, if it please the Lord that I live so long); but the jest was, the Clerke begins the 25 psalm, which hath a proper tune to it, and then the 116, which cannot be sung with that tune, which seemed very ridiculous.

6. *Twelfe day.* This morning I sent my lute to the painter's; and there I stayed with him all the morning, to see him paint the neck of my lute in my picture – which I was not much pleased with after it was done. Thence to dinner to Sir Wm. Pens (it being a solemn feast-day with him, his wedding day; and we have, besides a good chine of beef and other good cheer, eighteen mince-pies in a dish, the number of the years that he hath been married); where Sir W. Batten and his Lady and daughter was, and Coll. Treswell and Maj. Holmes, who I perceive would fain get to be free and friends with my wife; but I shall prevent it, and she herself hath also a defyance against him.

8. I rose and went to Westminster hall, and there walked up and down upon several businesses; and among others, I met with Sir W. Pen, who told me that he had this morning heard Sir G. Carteret extreme angry against my man Will; that he was every other day with the Comissioners of Parliament at Westminster and that his uncle¹ was a rogue and that he did tell his uncle everything that passes at the office.

10. To Whitehall and there spoke with Sir Paul Neale about a Mathematicall request of my Lord's to him; which I did deliver to him, and he promised to employ somebody to answer it – something about observation of the Moone and stars; but what, I did not mind.

11. To Sir Wm. Battens, where in discourse I heard the Custome of the Eleccion of the Dukes of Genoa, who for two years are every day attended in the greatest state and 4 or 500 men always waiting upon him as a king. And when the two years are out and another is chose, a messenger is sent to him, who stands at the bottom of the

1. Robert Blackborne, a leading naval official under the Commonwealth.