

proceed further in speaking with Harman, who hath already been spoke to about it, as from them only; and he is mighty glad of it, but doubts it may be an offence to me if I should know of it; so thinks that it doth come only from Joyce, which I like the better. So I do believe the business will go on, and I desire it were over. I to the office then, where I did much business and set my people to work against furnishing me to go to Hampton Court, where the King and Duke will be on Sunday next. It is now certain that the King of France hath publicly declared war against us, and God knows how little fit we are for it. At night comes Sir W. Warren, and he and I into the garden and talked over all our business. He gives me good advice, not to imbarck into trade (as I have had it in my thoughts about Coll. Norwood) so as to be seen to mind it, for it will do me hurt, and draw my mind off from my business and imbroil my estate too soon. So to the office business, and I find him as cunning a man in all points as ever I met with in my life; and mighty merry we were in the discourse of our own tricks. So about 10 a-clock at night, I home and stayed with him there, talking and laughing at the folly of some of our neighbours of this office, till 2 in the morning; and so to bed.

28. *Lords day.* Being dressed in my velvet coat and plain Cravatt, took a hackney coach provided ready for me by 8 a-clock; and so to my Lord Brouncker with all my papers. And there took his coach with four horses and away towards Hampton Court, having a great deal of good discourse with him. At the Wicke found Sir J. Mennes and Sir W. Batten at a lodging provided for us by our Messenger, and there a good dinner ready. After dinner took coach, and to Court, where we find the King and Duke and Lords all in council; so we walked up and down – there being none of the ladies come, and so much the more business I hope will be done. The Council being up, out comes the King, and I kissed his hand and he grasped me very kindly by the hand. The Duke also, I kissed his; and he mighty kind, and Sir W. Coventry. After changing a few words with Sir W. Coventry, who assures me of his respect and love to me and his concernment for my health in all this sickness – I went down into one of the Courts and there met the King and Duke; and the Duke called me to him – and the King came to me of himself and told me: “Mr. Pepys,” says he, “I do give you thanks for your good service all this year, and I assure you I am very sensible of it.” And the Duke of Yorke did tell me with pleasure that he had read over