

much against my uncles will as far almost as Hyde park, he and my aunt falling out all the way about it, which vexed me. But all was peace again presently. And so it raining very fast, we met many brave coaches coming from the park, and so we turned and set them down at home; and so home ourselfs and ended the day with great content – to think how it hath pleased the Lord in six years time to raise me from a condition of constant and dangerous and most painful sickness and low condition and poverty to a state of constant health almost – great honour and plenty, for which the Lord God of Heaven make me truly thankful. My wife found her gown come home laced; which is indeed very handsome but will cost me a great deal of money, more than ever I intended – but it is but for once. So to the office and did business; and then home and to bed.

31. My head of late mighty full of business, and with good content to myself in it; though sometimes it troubles me that nobody else but I should bend themselves to serve the King with that diligence, whereby much of my pains proves ineffectual.

—*APRILL*—

1. Up and to my office, where busy till noon; and then to the Change – where I find all the merchants concerned with the presenting their complaints to the committee of Parliament appointed to receive them this afternoon against the Dutch. So home to dinner and thence by coach, setting my wife down at the New Exchange; I to Whitehall and coming too soon for the Tanger Committee, walked to Mr. Blagrave for a song I left long ago there. Back to Whitehall and in the Gallery met the Duke of Yorke (I also saw the Queene going to the parke and her maids of honour; she herself look ill, and methinks Mrs. Stewart is grown fatter and not so fair as she was) and he called me to him and discourse a good while with me; and after he was gone twice or thrice, stayed and called me again to him the whole length of the Howse. And at last talked of the Dutch; and I perceive doth much wish that the Parliament will find reason to fall out with them. He gone, I by and by find that the Comissioners of Tanger met at the Duke of Albemarles, and so I have lost my labour. So with Creed to the Change and there took up my wife and left him, and we two home,