

and waggons, as ours in coaches.<sup>1</sup> Wishing the same here, as an expedient to make the ways better; and I think there is something in it, where there is breadth enough.

2. Lay long with pleasure, talking with my wife – in whom I never had greater content, blessed be God, then now; she continuing with the same care and thrift and innocence (so long as I keep her from occasions of being otherwise) as ever she was in her life, and keeps the house as well. To church, where Mills (after he had read the service and shifted himself as he did the last day) preached a very ordinary sermon. So home to dinner with my wife. Then up into my new rooms, which are almost finished, and there walked with great content, talking with my wife till church time, and then to church; and there being a lazy preacher, I sleep out the sermon and so home.

3. Pierce the Chyrurgeon tells me that my Lady Castlemayne is with child; but though it be the King's, yet her Lord being still in towne and sometime seeing of her, though never to eat or lie together, it will be laid to him. He tells me also how the Duke of York is smitten in love with my Lady Chesterfield (a virtuous lady, daughter of my Lord of Ormond); and so much, that the Duchesse of Yorke hath complained to the King and her father about it, and my Lady Chesterfield is gone into the country for it. At all which I am sorry; but it is the effect of idleness and having nothing else to employ their great spirits upon.

5. Up and with my painters, painting my dining-room all day long till night, not stirring out at all. Only in the morning my Lady Batten did send to speak with me and told me very civilly that she did not desire, nor hoped I did, that anything should pass between us but what was civil, though there was not the neighbourliness between her and my wife that was fit to be; and so complained of my maid's mocking of her when she called "Nan" to her maid within her own house; my maid Jane in my yard overheard her and mocked her. And some other such-like things she told me, and of my wife's speaking unhandsomely of her; to all which I did give her a very respectful answer, such as did please her, and am sorry endeed that this should be, though I do not desire there should be

1. sc. abreast instead of in tandem.