

the Change, and I home to the office, and at noon dined at home, and to the office again. Anon comes Mrs. Knipp to see my wife, who is gone out; so I fain to entertain her, and took her out by coach to look my wife at Mrs. Pierces and Unthanes, but find her not; so back again, and then my wife comes home, having been buying of things. And at home I spent all the night talking with this baggage and teaching her my song of *Beauty retire*, which she sings and makes go most rarely, and a very fine song it seems to be. She also entertained me with repeating many of her own and others' parts of the playhouse, which she doth most excellently; and tells me the whole practices of the playhouse and players, and is in every respect most excellent company. So I supped, and was merry at home all the evening, and the rather it being my Birthday, 33 years – for which God be praised that I am in so good a condition of health and state and everything else as I am, beyond expectation in all. So she to Mrs. Turner's to lie, and we to bed – mightily pleased to find myself in condition to have these people come about me, and to be able to entertain them and have the pleasure of their qualities, then which no man can have more in this world.

25. *Lords day*. My wife up between 3 and 4 of the clock in the morning to dress herself, and I about 5, and were all ready to take coach, she and I and Mercer a little past 5; but to our trouble, the coach did not come till 6. Then, with our coach of four horses I hire on purpose, and Lashmore to ride by, we through the City, it being clear day, to Branford, and so to Windsor (Capt. Ferrer overtaking us at Kensington, being to go with us) and here drank; and so through, making no stay, to Cranborne about 11 a-clock, and found my Lord and the ladies at a sermon in the house – which being ended, we to them; and all the company glad to see us, and mighty merry to dinner. Here was my Lord, and Lord Hinchingbrooke and Mr. Sidney – Sir Ch. Herbert and Mr. Carteret – my Lady Carteret, my Lady Jemimah, and Lady Slaning. After dinner to talk to and again, and then to walk in the Parke, my Lord and I alone, talking upon these heads – first, he hath left his business of the prizes as well as is possible for him, having cleared himself before the Commissioners by the King's commands, so that nothing or little is to be feared from that point – he goes fully assured, he tells me, of the King's favour. That upon occasion I may know, I desired to know his friends I may trust to. He tells me, but that he is not yet in England but continues this summer in Ireland,