

gone with some company to see Hampton Court; so we three went to [Whitefriars] (the first time that ever I was there since plays begun);<sup>1</sup> and there, after great patience and little expectacions from so poor beginnings, I saw three acts of *The Mayd in the Mill* acted, to my great content. But it being late, I left the play and them, and by water through bridge home. And so to Mr. Turner's house, where the Comptroller, Sir Wm. Baten, and Mr. Davis and their ladies; and here we have a most neat little, but costly and genteele supper. And after that, a great deal of impertinent mirth by Mr. Davis and some catches, and so broke up. And going away, Mr. Davis's eldest son took up my old Lady Slingsby in his armes and carried her to the Coach, and is said to be able to carry three [of] the biggest men that were in the company – which I wonder at. So home and to bed.

30th. *Fast day*. The first time that this day hath been yet observed. And Mr. Mills made a most excellent sermon – upon “Lord, forgive us our former iniquitys.” Speaking excellently of the justice of God in punishing man for the sins of his ancesters. Home, and John Goods comes; and after dinner Sir Wm. Pen and I into Moorefields and have a rare walk, it being a most pleasant day. And besides much discourse, did please ourselves to see young Davis and Whitton, two of our clerks, going by us in the field – who we observe to take much pleasure together; and I did most often see them at plays together. I went away home, and there understand that my mother is come home well from Brampton. And have a letter from my brother John – a very ingenious one; and he therein begs to have leave to come to town at the Coronacion. Then to my Lady Batten's, where my wife and she are lately come back again from being abroad and seeing of Cromwell, Ireton, and Bradshaw hanged and buried at Tiburne. Then I home.

## ✻FEBRUARY✻

1. *Friday*. A full office all this morning; and busy about answering the Comissioners of Parliament<sup>2</sup> to their letter, wherein they desire to borrow two Clerkes of ours – which we will not grant them.

1. Cf. above, p. 109, n. 1.

2. Appointed to pay off ships.