

manner of setting of words and repeating them out of order, and that with a number of voices, makes me sick, the whole design of vocall music being lost by it. Here was a great press of people, but I did not see many pleased with it; only, the instrumental music he had brought by practice to play very just. So thence late, in the dark round by the Wall home by coach; and there to sing and sup with my wife and look upon our pretty girl, and so to bed.

3. Up; and going out of doors, I understand that Sir W. Batten is gone to bed on a sudden again this morning, being struck very ill. And I confess I have observed him for these last two months to look very ill and to look worse and worse. I to St. James's (though it be a sitting day) to the Duke of York about [the] Tanger Committee, which met this morning; and he came to us, and the charter for the city of Tanger was read and the form of the Court Merchant.

4. To my Lord Crews and there did stay with him an hour discoursing about the ill state of my Lord Sandwich, that he can neither be got to be called home nor money got to maintain him there, which will ruin his family: and the truth is, he doth almost deserve it, for by all relation he hath in a little more then a year and a half spent 20000*l* of the King's money and the best part of 10000*l* of his own; which is a most prodigious expense, more then ever Embassadors spent there and more then these Commissioners of the Treasury will or do allow; and they demand an account before they will give him any more money; which puts all his friends to a loss what to answer – but more money we must get him, or to be called home. So home, and there to see Sir W. Batten, who fell sick yesterday morning. He is asleep and so I could not see him; but in an hour after, word is brought me that he is so ill, that it is believed he cannot live till tomorrow; which troubles me and my wife mightily, partly out of kindness, he being a good neighbour, and partly because of the money he owes me. So home and to supper and to bed.

5. Up, and to the office and there all the morning, none but my Lord Anglesy and myself. But much surprized with the news of the death of Sir W. Batten, who died this morning, having been but two days sick. Sir W. Penn and I did despatch a letter this morning to Sir W. Coventry to recommend Coll. Middleton, who we think a most honest and understanding man, and fit for that place. At