

and if it do so now already, what would it do if the money was collected upon the Act and returned into the Exchequer so timelily as it ought to be. But it comes into my mind here to observe what I have heard from Sir Jo. Bankes (though I cannot fully conceive the reason of it): that it will be impossible to make the Exchequer ever a true bank to all intents, unless the Exchequer stood nearer the Exchange, where merchants might with ease, while they are going about their business, at all hours and without trouble or loss of time, have their satisfaction; which they cannot have now with[out] much trouble and loss of half a day, and no certainty of having the offices open. By this, he means a bank for common practice and use of merchants, and therein I do agree with him. Being parted from Sir W. Penn and G. Downing, I to Westminster hall and there met Balty, whom I had sent for; and there did break the business of my getting him the place of going again as Muster-maister with Harman this voyage to the West Indys; which endeed I do owe to Sir W. Penn. He is mighty glad of it and earnest to fit himself for it; but I do find, poor man, that he is troubled how to dispose of his wife, and apparently it is out of fear of her and his honour, and I believe he hath received some cause of this his jealousy and care. And I do pity him in it, and will endeavour to find out some way to do it for him. Having put him in a way of preparing himself for the voyage, I did go to the Swan; and there sent for Jervas my old periwig-maker and he did bring me a periwig; but it was full of nits, so as I was troubled to see it (it being his old fault) and did send him to make it clean; and in the meantime, having stayed for him a good while, did go away by water and to the Castle Taverne by Exeter house and there met W. Batten, W. Penn and several others; among the rest, Sir Ellis Layton, who doth apply himself to discourse with me; and I think by his discourse, out of his opinion of my interest in Sir W. Coventry. The man I find a wonderful witty, ready man for sudden answers and little tales and sayings very extraordinary witty; but in the bottom, I doubt he is not so. Yet he pretends to have studied men; and the truth is, in several that I do know he did give me a very inward account of them.

So I home, and there up to my wife in our chamber; and there received from my brother the news of my mother's dying on Monday, about 5 or 6 a-clock in the afternoon, and that the last time she spoke of her children was on Friday last, and her last words was, "God bless my poor Sam!" The reading thereof did set me a-weeping heartily; and so, weeping to myself a while and my wife