

be the mark of the beast. I home and there fell to reading, and then to supper and to bed.

19. At noon by coach to St. Paul's churchyard to my bookseller's and there bespoke a few more books, to bring all I have lately bought to 10*l*. Here I am told for certain, what I have heard once or twice already, of a Jew in town, that in the name of the rest doth offer to give any man 10*l*, to be paid 100*l* if a certain person now in Smirna be within these two years owned by all the princes of the East, and peticularly the Grand Segnor, as the King of the world, in the same manner we do the King of England here, and that this man is the true Messiah. One named a friend of his that had received ten pieces in gold upon this score, and says that the Jew hath disposed of 1100*l* in this manner – which is very strange; and certainly this year of 1666 will be a year of great action, but what the consequence of it will be, God knows. Thence to the Change, and from my stationer's thereabouts carried home by coach two books of Ogilbys, his *Æsop* and *Coronacion*, which fell to my lot at his lottery; cost me 4*l*, besides the binding. So home. I find my wife gone out to Hales her painter's, and I after a little dinner do fallow her, and there do find him at work, and with great content I do see it will be a very rare picture. Left her there, and I to my Lord Treasurer's, where Sir G. Carteret and Sir J. Mennes met me; and before my Lord Treasurer and Duke of Albemarle, the state of our Navy debts was laid open, being very great, and their want of money to answer them openly professed – there being but 150000*l* to answer a certain expense and debt of 2300000*l*. Thence walked with Fenn down to Whitehall, and there saw the Queene at Cards with many ladies, but none of our beauties were there. But glad I was to see the Queen so well, who looks prettily – and methinks hath more life then before, since it is confessed of all that she miscarryed lately – Dr. Clerke telling me yesterday at Whitehall that he had the membranes and other vessels in his hands which she voided, and were perfect as ever woman's was that bore a child.

20. Up, and to the office – where, among other businesses, Mr. Evelyn's proposition about public Infirmarys was read and agreed on, he being there. And at noon I took him home to dinner, being desirous of keeping my acquaintance with him; and a most excellent-humourd man I still find him, and mighty knowing. After dinner I took him by coach to Whitehall, and there he and I