

for it, which cannot be, I am sure, without Sir G. Carteret's accounts be better understood then they are. Thence by coach, calling at my bookseller's, and carried home 10*l*-worth of books, all I hope I shall buy a great while. There by appointment find Mr. Hill come to sup and take his last leave of me;¹ and by and by in comes Mr. James Houbland to bear us company, a man I love mightily, and will not lose his acquaintance. He told me in my eare this night what he and his brothers have resolved to give me, which is 200*l* for helping them out with two or three ships – a good sum, and that which I did believe they would give me, and I did expect little less. Here we talked, and very good company till late, and then took leave of one another; and ended I am heartily sorry for Mr. Hill's leaving us – for he is a very worthy gentleman, as most I know – God give him a good voyage and success in his business. Thus we parted, and my wife and I to bed, heavy for the loss of our friend.

4. *Lords day*. And all day at my Tanger and private accounts, having neglected them since Christmas; which I hope I shall never do again, for I find the inconvenience of it, it being ten times the labour to remember and settle things; but I thank God I did it at last, and brought them all fine and right; and I am, I think, by all appears to me (and I am sure I cannot be 10*l* wrong), worth above 4600*l*; for which the Lord be praised, being the biggest sum I ever was worth yet.

6. Up betimes, and did much business before office-time. Then to the office and there till noon, and so home to dinner, and to the office again till night. In the evening, being at Sir W. Batten's, stepped in (for I have not used to go thither a great while); I find my Lord Bruncker and Mrs. Williams, and they would of their own accord, though I had never obliged them (nor my wife neither) with one visit for many of theirs, go see my house and my wife; which I showed them, and made them welcome with wine and China oranges (now a great rarity since the war; none to be had), there being also Capt. Cocke and Mrs. Turner, who had never been in my house since I came to the office before, and Mrs. Carcasse, wife of Mr. Carcasse's. My house happened to be mighty clean and did me great honour, and they mightily pleased with it. They gone, I to the office and did some business; and then home to supper and to

1. He was about to go to Portugal as the Houblons' agent.