

very finely and is a good thing, I believe, to be made by him – and they all commend it. And after that was done, Capt. Cooke and his two boys did sing some Italian songs, which I must in a word say I think was fully the best Musique that I ever yet heard in all my life.

24. Up betimes; and though it was a most foggy morning and cold, yet with a gally down to Eriffe, several times being at a loss whither we went. There I mustered two ships of the King's, lent by him to the Guiny Company, which are manned better then ours at far less wages. Thence on board two of the King's; one of them the *Leopard*, Capt. Beech, who I find an able and serious man. He received me civilly, and his wife was there, a very well-bred and knowing woman – born at Antwerp, but speaks as good English as myself, and an ingenious woman. Here was also Sir G. Carteret's son, who I find a pretty, but very talking man; but good humour. Thence back again, entertaining myself upon my sliding-rule with great content; and called at Woolwich, where Mr. Chr. Pett, having an opportunity of being alone, did tell me his mind about several things he thought I was offended with him in, and told me of my kindness to his Assistant; I did give him such an answer as I thought was fit, and left him well satisfied – he offering to do me all the service, either by draughts or modell, that I should desire. Thence straight home, being very cold but yet well, I thank God. And at home find my wife making mince-pies; and by and by comes in Capt. Ferrers to see us and among other talk, tells us of the goodness of the new play of *Henry the 8th*, which makes me think long till my time is out; but I hope before I go, I shall set myself such a stint as I may not forget myself, as I have hitherto done till I was forced for these [six] months last past wholly to forbid myself the seeing of one. He gone, I to my office and there late, writing and reading; and so home to bed.

25. *Christmas*. Lay long, talking pleasantly with my wife; but among other things, she begin, I know not whether by design or chance, to enquire what she should do if I should by an accident die; to which I did give her some slight answer, but shall make good use of it to bring myself to some settlement for her sake, by making a Will as soon as I can. Up, and to church, where Mr. Mills made an ordinary sermon; and so home and dined with great pleasure with my wife; and all the afternoon, first looking out at window and seeing the boys playing at many several sports in our back-yard by