

past 12 at night to master them, but cannot. Thus ends this month – with my head and mind mightily full and disquiet because of my accounts, which I have let go too long and confounded my public with my private, that I cannot come to any liquidating of them. However, I do see that I must be grown richer then I was by a good deal the last month. Busy also I am in thoughts for a husband for my sister; and to that end, my wife and I have determined that she shall presently go into the country to my father and mother, and consider of a proffer made them for her in the country; which, if she likes, shall go forward.

APRILL

1. *Lords day.* Up and abroad, and by coach to Charing cross to wait on Sir Ph. Howard – whom I found in bed, and he doth receive me very civilly. My request was about suffering my wife's brother to go to sea, and to save his pay in the Duke's guards – which, after a little difficulty, he did with great respect agree to. I find him a very fine-spoken gentleman, and one of great parts – and very courteous. Much pleased with this visit, I to Whitehall, where I met Sir G. Downing; and to discourse with him an hour about the Exchequer payments upon the late act, and informed myself of him thoroughly in my safety in lending 2000*l* to Sir W. Warren upon an order of his upon the Exchequer for 2602*l* – and I do purpose to do it. Thence, meeting Dr. Allen the physician, he and I and another walked in the park, a most pleasant warm day, and to the Queen's chapel – where I do not so dislike the music. Here I saw on a post an invitation to all good Catholics to pray for the soul of such a one, departed this life.

6. Up mighty betimes, upon my wife's going this day toward Brampton. I could not go to the coach with her, but W. Hewers did, and hath leave from me to go the whole day's journey with her. All the morning upon business at the office, and at noon dined; and Mrs. Hunt coming, lent her 5*l* on her occasions, and so carried her to axe yard end at Westminster and there left her – a good and understanding woman, and her husband, I perceive, thrives mightily in his business of the Excise. Thence to Mr. Hales, and there sat and my picture almost finished; which, by the word of Mr.