

hail almost all the morning. By and by Creed and I abroad and called at several churches; and it is a wonder to see, and by that to guess, the ill temper of the City at this time, either to religion in general or to the King, that in some churches there was hardly ten people in the whole church, and those poor people.

30. Up betimes and Creed and I by water to Fleetestreete; and my brother not being ready, he and I walked to the New Exchange and there dranke our morning draught of Whay, the first I have done this year. But I perceive the lawyers come all in as they go to the hall, and I believe it is very good. So to my brother's and there I find my aunt James, a poor, religious, well-meaning, good humble soul, talking of nothing but God Almighty, and that with so much innocence that mightily pleased me. Here was a fellow that said grace so long, like a prayer; I believe the fellow is a cunning fellow, and yet I by my brother's desire did give him a crowne, he being in great want and it seems a parson among the fanatiques and a cousin of my poor aunts – whose prayers, she told me, did do me good among the many good souls that did by my father's desires pray for me when I was cut of the stone, and which God did hear; which I also in complaisance did owne, but God forgive me, my mind was otherwise. So home; and after supper did wash my feet, and so to bed.

31. This month, the greatest news is the heighth and heat that the Parliament is in enquiring into the Revenue, which displeases the Court, and their backwardness to give the King any money. Their enquiring into the selling of places doth trouble a great many; among the chief, my Lord Chancellor (against whom perticularly it is carried) and Mr. Coventry, for which I am sorry. The King of France was given out to be poisoned and dead; but it proves to be the meazles and is well, or likely to be soon well again. I find myself growing in the esteem and credit that I have in the office, and I hope falling to my business again will confirm me in it, and the saving of money – which God grant.

My whole family lying longer this morning then was fit, and besides, Will having neglected to brush my cloak as he ought to do till I was ready to go to church, and not then till I bid him, I was very angry; and seeing him make little matter of it, but seeming to make a matter indifferent whether he did it or no, I did give him [a] box on the eare, and had it been another day had done more.