

Duke this afternoon; so home about 3 to clap a bit of meat in my mouth, and so away with Sir W. Batten to Whitehall – and there to the Duke; but he being to go abroad to take the ayre, he dismissed us presently -- without doing anything till tomorrow morning. So my Lord Brouncker and I down to walk in the garden, it being a mighty hot and pleasant day; and there was the King, who, among others, talked to us a little; and among other pretty things, he swore merrily that he believed the Ketch that Sir W. Batten bought the last year at Colchester was of his own getting, it was so thick to its length. Another pleasant thing he said of Chr. Pett, commending him that he will not alter his moulds of his ships upon any man's advice (“as”, says he, “Comissioner Taylor, I fear, doth of his *New London*, that he makes it differ, in hopes of mending the *Old London*, built by him): for,” says he, “he finds that God hath put him into the right, and so will keep in it while he is in. And,” says the King, “I am sure it must be God put him in, for no art of his own ever could have done it” – for it seems he cannot give a good account of what he doth as an Artist.

23. Walked to Westminster hall; and after a little stay there, I took coach and away home, in my way asking in two or three places the worth of pearl – I being now come to the time that I have long ago promised my wife a necklace.

27. Up (taking Balty with me, who lay at my house last [night] in order to his going away today to sea with the pursers of the *Henery*, whom I appointed to call him). Abroad to many several places about several businesses: to my Lord Treasurer's, Westminster, and I know not where. At noon to the Change a little, and then bespoke some maps to hang in my new Roome (my boy's room), which will be very pretty. Home to dinner; and after dinner to the hanging up of maps and other things for the fitting of the room, and now it will certainly be one of the handsomest and most useful rooms in my house – so that what with this room and the room on my leads, my house is half as good again as it was. All this afternoon about this, till I was so weary, and it was late, I could do no more, but finished the room; so I did not get out to the office all the day long. At night spent a good deal of time with my wife and Mercer, teaching them a song; and so after supper, to bed.

28. I very busy all the afternon till night – among other things,