

Hales's to have seen our pictures; but could not get in, he being abroad. And so to the cake-house hard by, and there sat in the coach with great pleasure and eat some fine cakes; and so carried them to Pierces, and away home. It is a mighty fine witty boy, Mrs. pierce's little boy. Thence home and to the office, where late writing letters; and leaving a great deal to do on Monday – I home to supper and to bed. The truth is, I do indulge myself a little the more pleasure, knowing that this is the proper age of my life to do it, and out of my observation that most men that do thrive in the world do forget to take pleasure during the time that they are getting their estate but reserve that till they have got one, and then it is too late for them to enjoy it with any pleasure.

14. To Hales's to see my wife's picture, which I like mighty well; and there had the pleasure to see how suddenly he draws the Heavens, laying a dark ground and then lightening it when and where he will. Thence to walk all alone in the fields behind Grays Inne, making an end of reading over my dear *Faber Fortunæ* of my Lord Bacon's; and thence, it growing dark, took two or three wanton turns about the idle places and lanes about Drury lane, but to no satisfaction, but a great fear of the plague among them; and so anon I walked by invitation to Mrs. Pierce's, where I find much good company; that is to say, Mrs. Pierce, my wife, Mrs. Worship and her daughter, and Harris the player and Knipp, and my wife and Mercer, and Mrs. Barbary Shelden, who is come this day to spend a week with my wife. And here, with music, we danced and sung and supped, and then to sing and dance till past one in the morning. And much mirth with Sir Anthony Apsly and one Coll. Sidny, who lodge in the house – and above all, they are mightily taken with Mrs. Knipp. Hence, weary and sleepy, we broke up, and I and my company home well by coach and to bed.

15. Lay till it was full time to rise, it being 8 a-clock, and so to the office and there sat till almost 3 a-clock, and then to dinner; and after dinner (my wife and Mercer and Mrs. Barbary being gone to Hales's before), I and my Cosen Anth. Joyce, who came on purpose to dinner with me. And he and I to discourse of our proposition of marriage between Pall and Harman. And upon discourse, he and I to Harman's house, and took him to a tavern hard by and we to discourse of our business, and I offered 500*l*. And he declares most ingenuously that his trade is not to be trusted on – that he however