

signs. To the Opera and there saw *Hamlet Prince of Denmarke*, done with Scenes very well. But above all, Batterton did the Prince's part beyond imagination.

26. This morning before I went out I made even with my mayd Jane, who hath this day been my maid three yeares and is this day to go into the country to her mother. The poor girl cried, and I could hardly forbear weeping to think of her going; for though she be grown lazy and spoiled by Palls coming, yet I shall never have one to please us better in all things, and so harmlesse, while I live. So I paid her her wages and gave her 2s.- 6d. over, and bade her Adieu – with my mind full of trouble for her going.

27. My wife and I to the Theatre and there saw *The Joviall Crew*, where the King, Duke and Duchesse, and Madam Palmer were; and my wife, to her great content, had her full sight of them all, all the while. The play full of mirth. Thence to my father's and there stayed to talk a while; and so by foot home by mooneshine. In my way and at home, my wife making a sad story to me of her brother Balty's condition, and would have me to do something for him; which I shall endeavour to do, but am afeared to meddle therein for fear I shall not be able to wipe my hands of him again when I once concern myself for him. I went to bed, my wife all the while telling me his case with teares, which troubled me.

31. At home and the office all the morning; and at noon comes Luellin to me and he and I to the taverne, and after that to Bartlemew faire; and there, upon his motion, to a pitiful alehouse, where we had a dirty slut or two come up that were whores; but my very heart went against them, so that I took no pleasure but a great deal of trouble at being there and getting from thence, for fear of being seen. From thence he and I walked toward Ludgate and parted. I back again to the fair all alone and there met with my ladies Jemimah and Paulina, with Mr. Pickering and Madamoiselle,¹ at seeing the Monkys dance, which was much to see what they could be brought to do; but it troubled me to sit among such nasty company. After that, with them into Christs: Hospitall, and there Mr. Pickering bought them some fairings, and I did give every of them a bauble, which was the little globes of glass with things

1. Mlle le Blanc, the young ladies' governess.