

weary in my business of the office, I went forth to the Change, thinking to have spoken with Capt. Cocke, but he was not within. So I home, and took London bridge in my way, walking down Fish street and Gracious street to see how very fine a descent they have now made down the hill, that it is become very easy and pleasant. And going through Leadenhall, it being market-day, I did see a woman ketch'd that had stolen a shoulder of mutton off of a butcher's stall, and carrying it wrapped up in a cloth in a basket. The jade was surprized, and did not deny it; and the woman so silly that took it as to let her go, only taking the meat.

23. *Lords day*. Up betimes, my head busy on my great letter, and I did first hang up my new map of Paris in my green room – and changed others in other places. Then to Capt. Cocke's, thinking to have talked more of what he told me yesterday, but he was not within; so back to church and heard a good sermon of Mr. Gifford's at our church, upon "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." A very excellent and persuasive, good and moral sermon; showed like a wise man that righteousness is a surer moral way of being rich than sin and villainy. Then home to dinner, where Mr. Pelling, who brought us a hare, which we had at dinner, and W. How. After dinner to the office, Mr. Gibson and I, to examine my letter to the Duke of York; which to my great joy, I did very well by my paper tube, without pain to my eyes. And I do mightily like what I have therein done; [and] did, according to the Duke of York's order, make haste to St. James'; and about 4 a-clock got thither, and there the Duke of York was ready to expect me, and did hear it all over with extraordinary content and did give me many and hearty thanks, and in words the most expressive tell me his sense of my good endeavours, and that he would have a care of me on all occasions, and did with much inwardness tell me what was doing, suitable almost to what Capt. Cocke tells me, of design to make alterations in the Navy; and is most open to me in them, and with utmost confidence desires my further advice on all occasions. And he resolves to have my letter transcribed and sent forthwith to the office. So, with as much satisfaction as I could possibly or did hope for, and obligation on the Duke of York's side professed to me, I away into the park, and there met Mr. Pierce and his wife and sister and brother and little boy, and with them to Mullbery garden and spent 18s. on them; and there left them, she being again with child,