

at all, but the ways are dusty and the flies fly up and down, and the rosebushes are full of leaves; such a time of the year as never was known in this world before here. This day, many more of the fith monarchy men were hanged.

22. To the Controller's house, where I read over his proposalls to the Lord Admirall for the regulating of the officers of the navy* – in which he hath taken much pains – only, he doth seem to have too good an opinion of them himself. From thence in his coach to Mercer's Chappell. And so up to the great hall, where we met with the King's Councell for trade upon some proposalls of theirs for settling convoys for the whole English trade – and that by having 33 ships (4 fourth-rates, 19 fith, 10 sixth) settled by the King for that purpose – which ended was argued very finely by many persons of Honour and merchants that were there. It pleased me much now to come in this condition to this place, where I was once a petitioner for my exhibicion in Pauls school. And also where Sir G. Downing (my late master) was chaireman, and so but equally concerned with me. From thence home; and after a little dinner by coach to Whitehall, and I met with Dr. Tho. Fuller and took him to the Dogg, where he tells me of his last and great book that is coming out: that is, his history of all the families of England – and could tell me more of my owne then I knew myself. And also to what perfection he hath now brought the art of memory; that he did lately to four eminently great Schollars dictate together in Latin upon different Subjects of their proposing, faster then they were able to write, till they were tired. And by the way, in discourse tells me that the best way of beginning a sentence, if a man should be out and forget his last sentence (which he never was), that then his last refuge is to begin with an *Utcunque*.

23. I to the office all the morning. My wife and people at home busy, to get things ready for tomorrow dinner. At noon, without dinner, went into the City; and there meeting with Greatorex, we went and drank a pot of ale. He told me that he was upon a design to go to Tenariffe to try experiments there. With him to Gresham Colledge (where I never was before) and saw the manner of the house, and find great company of persons of Honour there.¹ Thence to my bookseller's and for books; and to Stevens the

1. A meeting of the Society known after 1662 as the Royal Society.