

me! For this fortune two hours hence would be worth something to me; but then, God damn me, I shall have no such luck." This kind of profane, mad entertainment they give themselves. And so I having enough for once, refusing to venture, though Brisband pressed me hard and tempted me with saying that no man was ever known to lose the first time, the Devil being too cunning to discourage a gamester; and he offered me also to lend me ten pieces to venture, but I did refuse and so went away – and took coach and home about 9 or 10 at night.

6. *Twelfth day*. Up, leaving my wife to get her ready and the maids to get a supper ready against night for our company; and I by coach to Whitehall and there up and down the House; and among others, met with Mr. Pierce, by whom I find (as I was afear'd from the folly of my wife) that he understood that he and his wife was to dine at my house today, whereas it was to sup; and therefore I having done my business at Court, did go home to dinner, and there find Mr. Harris by the like mistake come to dine with me. However, we did get a pretty dinner ready for him; and there he and I to discourse of many things, and I do find him a very excellent person, such as in my whole [life] I do not know another better qualified for converse, whether in things of his own trade or of other kinds, a man of great understanding and observation, and very agreeable in the manner of his discourse, and civil as far as is possible. I was mightily pleased with his company; and after dinner did take coach with him and my wife and girl to go to a play and to carry him thither to his own house. But I light by the way to return home, thinking to have spoke with Mrs. Bagwell, who I did see today in our entry, come from Harwich, whom I have not seen these twelve months I think and more, and vouldrais haver hazer algo with her, sed she was gone; and so I took coach, and away to my wife at the Duke of York's House in the pit; and so left her, and to Mrs. Pierce and took her and her cousin Corbet, Knipp, and little James, and brought them to the Duke's House; and the House being full, was forced to carry them to a box, which did cost me 20s. besides oranges; which troubled me – though their company did please me.

Thence, after the play, stayed till Harris was undressed (there being Acted *The Tempest*) and so he withal, all by coaches home, where we find my house with good fires and candles ready, and our office the like, and the two Mercers, and Betty Turner, Pendleton, and W. Batelier; and so with much pleasure we into the house and