



—✧ JANUARY ✧—

2. Up I, and walked to Whitehall to attend the Duke of York as usual. My wife up, and with Mrs. Pen to walk in the fields to frost-bite* themselves. I find the Court full of great apprehensions of the French, who have certainly shipped landsmen, great numbers, at Brest; and most of our people here guess his design for Ireland. We have orders to send all the ships we can possible to the Downes. God have mercy on us, for we can send forth no ships without men; nor will men go without money, every day bringing us news of new mutinies among the seamen – so that our condition is like to be very miserable. Thence to Westminster hall and there met all the Houblons, who do laugh at this discourse of the French and say they are verily of opinion it is nothing but to send to their plantations in the West Indys, and that we at Court do blow up a design of invading us only to make the Parliament make more haste in the money matters – and perhaps it may be so, but I do not believe we have any such plots in our heads. After them, I with several people; among others, Mr. George Mountagu, whom I have not seen long. He mighty kind. He tells me all is like to go ill, the King displeasing the House of Commons by evading their Bill for examining accounts, and putting it into a commission. This doth not please them. He tells me he finds the enmity almost over for my Lord Sandwich, and that now all is upon the Vice chamberlaine, who bears up well and stands upon his vindication – which he seems to like well, and the others do construe well also. So to the Rose tavern, while Doll Lane came to me and we did biber a good deal de vino, et jo did give ella 12 solidos para comprar ella some gans for a new ano's gift. I did tocar et no mas su cosa, but in fit time and place jo creo que je pouvais faire whatever I would con ella. Thence to the Hall again and with Sir W. Pen by coach to the Temple, and there light and eat at an ordinary by; and then alone to the King's House and there saw *The Custome of the Country*, the second time of its being acted, wherein Knipp does the Widow