

company; so she and Mrs. Turner and The[oph]. and Talbot in mine, and Joyce, W. Batelier, and I in a hackney to Hyde park, where I was ashamed to be seen; but mightily pleased, though troubled with a drunken coachman that did not remember, when we came to light, where it was he took us up; but said at Hammersmith, and thither he was carrying of us when we came first out of the Park. So I carried them all to Hercules Pillars and there did treat them; and so about 10 at night parted, and my wife and I and W. Batelier home; and he gone, we to bed.

24. Up and to the office, where all the morning; and at noon home to dinner, Mr. Sheres dining with us by agreement, and my wife, which troubled me, mighty careful to have a handsome dinner for him. But yet I see no reason to be troubled at it, he being a very civil and worthy man I think; but only, it doth seem to imply some little neglect of me. After dinner to the King's House and there saw *The Generall* revived, a good play, that pleases me well; and thence, our coach coming for us, we parted and home, and I busy late at the office and then home to supper and to bed – well pleased tonight to have Lead the vizard-maker bring me home my vizard with a Tube fastened to it, which I think will do my business, at least in a great measure, for the easing of my eyes.

28. Up, and was called upon by Sir H. Cholmly to discourse about some accounts of his of Tanger; and then to other talk, and I find by him that it is brought almost to effect, the late endeavours of the Duke of York and Duchess, the Queen Mother, and my Lord St. Albans, together [with] some of the contrary faction, my Lord Arlington, that for a sum of money we shall enter into a league with the King of France;¹ wherein he says my Lord Chancellor is also concerned, and he believes that in the doing hereof, it is meant that he shall come in again, and that this sum of money will so help the King as that he will not need the Parliament; and that in that regard, it will be forwarded by the Duke of Buckingham and his faction, who dread the Parliament; but hereby, we must leave the Dutch, and that I doubt will undo us, and Sir H. Cholmly says he finds W. Coventry to think the like. My Lady Castlemayne is instrumental in this matter and, he says, never more great with the King than she is now. But this is a thing that will make the Parliament and

1. These negotiations led to the secret treaty of Dover, May 1670.