

THE DIARY

1662

JANUARY. $\frac{1661}{62}$.

1. Waking this morning out of my sleep on a sudden, I did with my elbow hit my wife a great blow over her face and nose, which waked her with pain – at which I was sorry. And to sleep again.

Up, and went forth with Sir Wm. Pen by coach toward Westminster; and in my way, seeing that *The Spanish Curate*¹ was acted today, I light and let him go alone; and I home again and sent to young Mr. Pen and his sister to go anon with my wife and I to the Theatre.²

That done, Mr. W. Pen came to me and he and I walked out, and to the Stacioners³ and looked over some pictures and maps for my house. And so home again to dinner. And by and by came the two young Pens, and after we had eat a barrel of oysters, we went by coach to the play and there saw it well acted, and a good play it is. Only, Diego the Sexton did overdo his part too much.

From thence home, and they sat with us till late at night at Cards, very merry. But the jest was, Mr. Pen had left his sword in the Coach; and so my boy and he run out after the Coach, and by very great chance did at the Exchange meet with the Coach and got^a his sword again.

So to bed.

2. An invitation sent us before we were upp from my Lady Sandwiches, to come and dine with her. So at the office all the morning; and at noon thither to dinner. Where there was a good and great dinner – and the company, Mr. Wm. Mountagu and his lady (but she seemed so far from the beauty that I expected

^a MS. 'god'

1. A comedy by Fletcher and Massinger; see above, ii. 54, n. 4. (A).

2. The TR, Vere St. (A).

3. John Cade's in Cornhill. This

is an early reference to Pepys's purchase of prints for the decoration of his house, and among the earliest known references to the increasing use of prints for this purpose. (OM).

her from my Lady's talk to be, that it put me into an ill humour all the day to find my expectation so lost), Mr. Rumball and Townsend and their wives. After dinner home by water and so to the office till night. And then I went forth by appointment to meet with Mr. Grant,¹ who promised to meet me at the Coffee-house to bring me acquainted with Cooper,² the great Limner in little – but they deceived me; and so I went home and there sat at my lute and singing till almost twelve at night; and so to bed.

Sir Rich. Fanshaw is come suddenly from Portugall, but nobody knows what his business is.³

3. Lay long in bed. And so up and abroad to several places about petty businesses. Among other, to Tom's, who I find great hopes of that he will do well, which I am glad of and am not now so hasty to get a wife for him as I was before. So to dinner to my Lord Crew's, with him and his Lady. And after dinner to Faithornes and there bought some pictures of him; and while I was there, comes by the Kings lifeguard, he being gone to Lincolns Inne this afternoon to see the Revells there; there being according to an old Custome, a Prince and all his nobles, and other matters of sport and charge.⁴

So home and up to my chamber – to look over papers and other things, my mind being much troubled for these four or

1. John Graunt, the pioneer social statistician. For his interest in art, see below, iv. 106.

2. Samuel Cooper. In 1668 he painted Mrs Pepys's portrait: below, ix. 138 & n. 2. (OM).

3. He had been sent as ambassador to Portugal in 1661 to exchange ratifications of the marriage treaty and to see that the Portuguese fulfilled their obligations under it. On 3/13 January the Venetian resident reported 'Sir Fanscio's' unexpected arrival on 31 December: 'The reason . . . is not known. It is supposed that it may be because all the things promised by Portugal . . . are not going well' (CSPVen. 1661-4, p. 95). He appears to have come by order of

Queen Catherine, and because her departure had been delayed: HMC, *Heathcote*, p. 123.

4. Evelyn (who attended) refers (1 January) to the occasion as a 'solemn foolerie of the *Prince de la Grange* . . . beginning with a grand Masque and a formal Pleading, before the mock-princes (*Grandees*), Nobles & knights of the *Sunn*: He had his L. Chancellor, Chamberlaine, Treasurer, & other royal officers gloriously clad & attended, which ended in a magnificent Banquet . . .'. See also *Merc. Pub.*, 26 December 1661, pp. 802+; *Records of Lincoln's Inn: Black Books*, iii. 440-3. Cf. E. Chamberlayne, *Angl. Not.* (1671), pp. 427+.

five days because of my present great expense, and will be so till I cast up and see how my estate stands. And that I am loath to do, for fear I have spent too much – and delay it, the rather that I may pay for my pictures and my wife's and the book that I am buying for Paul's Schoole¹ before I do cast up my accompts.

4. At home most of the morning, hanging up pictures and seeing how my pewter Sconces that I have bought will become my stayres and entry. And then with my wife by water to Westminster; whither she to her father's, and I to Westminster-hall and there walked a turn or two with Mr. Chetwin (who had a dog challenged of him by another man that said it was his, but Mr. Chetwin called the dog, and the dog at last would fallow him and not his old master, and so Chetwin got the dog) and W. Symons. And thence to my wife, who met me at my Lord's lodgings; and she and I and old East to Wilkinson's to dinner, where we had some base rost beefe and a mutton-pie and a mince-pie, but none of them pleased me. After dinner, by coach my wife and I home, and I to the office and there till late; and then I and my wife to Sir W. Pens to cards and supper, and were merry. And much correspondence there hath been between our two families all this Christmas. So home and to bed.

5. *Lords day.* Left my wife in bed not well, having her *moys*. And I to church; and so home to dinner and dined alone upon some marrow bones. And had a fine piece of roast beef, but being alone I eat none. So after dinner comes in my Brother Tom, and he tells me how he hath seen the father and mother of the girle which my Cosen Joyces would have him to have for a wife;² and they are much for it. But we are in a great Quandary what to do therein – 200l being but a little money; and I hope, if he continues as he begins, he may look for one with more.

To church; and before sermon there was a long psalm and half another sung out while the Sexton gathered what the church would give him for this last year³ (I gave him 3s, and

1. See above, ii. 239 & n. 3.

2. See above, ii. 242.

3. It was usual to choose a long psalm when these New Year collections were made: cf. above, ii. 6.

have the last week given the Clerke 2s, which I set down that I may know what to do the next year, if it please the Lord that I live so long); but the jest was, the Clerke begins the 25 psalm, which hath a proper tune to it,¹ and then the 116, which cannot be sung with that tune, which seemed very ridiculous.

After church to Sir W. Battens (where on purpose I have not been this fortnight, and I am resolved to keep myself more reserved, to avoyd the contempt which otherwise I must fall into); and so home and sat and talked and supped with my wife; and so up to prayers and to bed – having writ a letter this night to Sir J. Mennes in the Downes for his opinion in the business of striking of flaggs.²

6.^a *Twelve day.* This morning I sent my lute to the painter's; and there I stayed with him all the morning, to see him paint the neck of my lute in my picture³ – which I was not much pleased with after it was done. Thence to dinner to Sir Wm. Pens (it being a solemn feast-day with him, his wedding day; and we have, besides a good chine of beef and other good cheer, eighteen mince-pies in a dish, the number of the years that he hath been married);⁴ where Sir W. Batten and his Lady and daughter was, and Collonell Treswell and Major Holmes, who I perceive would fain get to be free and friends with my wife; but I shall prevent it, and she herself hath also a defyance* against him.⁵ After dinner they set in to drinking, so that I could stay no longer but went away home; and Captain Cock, who was quite drunk, comes after me and there sat awhile, and so away. And anon I went again after^b the company was gone, and sat and played at Cards with Sir W. Penn and his children; and so after supper, home. And there I hear that my man Gul:⁶ was

a repl. '7' b repl. 'and'

1. Cf. M. Frost, *Engl. and Scott. psalm and hymn tunes*, c. 1543-1677, nos 43-5, 128-9. (E).

2. See below, p. 6 & n. 4.

3. Savill's portrait: see above, ii. 218, n. 4. The lute may have been the theorbo mentioned above, at ii. 193, 201, 203. (OM).

4. He had married Margaret van

der Schuren, widow, in 1643 at St Martin's, Ludgate. A certificate of 1652 in HMC, *Portland*, ii. 84, gives the date as 6 June – presumably a mistranscription.

5. Pepys earlier refers to the 'old business which he [Holmes] attempted upon my wife': above, ii. 237.

6. *Gulielmus* (William) Hewer.

gone to bed; and upon enquiry I hear that he did vomit before he went to bed, and complained his head ake. And thereupon, though he was asleep, I sent for him out of his bed; and he rose and came up to me, and I appeared very angry and did tax him with being drunk; and he told [me] that he had been with Mr. Southerne and Homewood¹ at the Dolphin and drank a Quart of sack, but that his head did ake before he went out. But I do believe that he hath drunk too much; and so I did threaten him to bid his Uncle² dispose of him some other way. And sent him down to bed and do resolve to continue to be angry with him. So I to bed to my wife and told her what hath passed.

7. Long in bed. And then rose and went along with Sir W. Penn on foot to Stepny to Mrs. Chappells (who hath the pretty boy to her son)³ and there met my wife and Sir W. Pens children all, and Mrs. Poole and her boy, and there dined and were very merry; and home again by Coach and so to the office in the afternoon; and at night to Sir Wm.^a Pens and there supped and played at Cards with them and were merry, the children being to go all away to schoole again tomorrow. Thence home and to bed.

8. I rose and went to Westminster-hall, and there walked up and down upon several businesses; and among others, I met with Sir W. Pen, who told me that he had this morning heard Sir G. Carteret extreme angry against my man Will; that he was every other day with the Comissioners of Parliament at Westminster and that his uncle was a rogue and that he did tell his uncle everything that passes at the office.⁴ And Sir Wm. (though he loves the lad) did advise me to part with him - which did with this surprize mightily trouble me, though I was already angry with him. And so to the Wardrobe by water, and all the way did examine Will about the business, but did not tell him upon what Scoare. But I find the poor lad doth suspect

^a MS. l.h. 'Wms.'

1. Clerks in the Navy Office.

2. Robert Blackborne, who had obtained for him the post with Pepys.

3. ? the Protector's page: cf. above, i. 176.

4. Blackborne was unpopular with royalists such as Carteret because of his service as Secretary to the Admiralty Committee under the Protectorate.

something. To dinner with my Lady, and after dinner talked long with her; and so home and to Sir Wm. Battens and sat and talked with him; and so home, troubled in mind; and so up to my study and read the two treatys before Mr. Seldens *Mare Clausum*;¹ and so to bed. <This night came about 100/ from Brampton by the Carrier to me in Holsters from my father, which made me laugh.>^a

9. At the office all the morning, private with Sir G. Carteret (who I expected something from about yesterday's business, but he said nothing), Sir Wms. Batten and Penn, about drawing up an answer to several demands of my Lord Treasurers, and late at it till 2 a-clock.² Then to dinner and my wife to Sir W. Pens; and so to the office again and sat till late; and so home – where I find Mr. Armiger below, talking with my wife; but being offended with him for his leaving of my brother Tom, I showed him no countenance, but did take notice of it to him plainly; and I perceive he was troubled at it, but I am glad I told him of it.³ Then (when he was gone) up to write several letters by the post. And so to set my papers and things in order, and to bed. This morning we agreed upon some things to answer to the Duke about the practice of striking of the flags⁴ – which will now put me upon finishing my resolution of writing something upon that subject.

a addition crowded into end of line

1. The 'treatys' (treatises) were two appendixes added by the translator (after, not before, the text) in the 1652 edition: *Additional evidences . . . relating to the reigns of K. James and K. Charls; and Dominium Maris . . . expressing the title, which the Venetians pretend unto the sole dominion, and absolute sovereigntie of the Adriatick Sea*. Cf. above, ii. 223 & nn. 1, 3.

2. The Lord Treasurer's request (sent to the Admiral on 4 January and forwarded by him on the 6th) was for information about stores, and for

details of accounts for the period 24 June 1660–1 January 1662: CTB, i. 346–7. The Navy Board's reply (16 January) is full and detailed: ib., i. 349–52; PRO, Adm. 2/1745, f. 65r; copy (in Hayter's hand) in PL 2265, no. 15.

3. Armiger again had lodgings at Tom's by 14 June 1663.

4. See Navy Board to Duke of York, 21 January. Copies in PL 2877, pp. 151–4 BL, Add. 9311, ff. 79v–80r. For the flag issue, see above, ii. 223, n. 1.

10. To White-hall and there spoke with Sir Paul Neale¹ about a Mathematicall request of my Lord's to him; which I did deliver to him, and he promised to imploy somebody to answer it - something about observation of the Moone and stars; but what, I did not mind. Here I met Mr. Moore, who tells me that an Injuncion is granted in Chancery against T. Trice,^a at which I was very glad, being before in some trouble for it.² With him to Westminster-hall, where I walked till noon talking^b with one or other; and so to the Wardrobe to dinner. Where, tired with Mr. Pickering's company, I returned to Westminster by appointment to meet my wife at Mrs. Hunts to gossip with her; which we did alone and were very merry, and did give her a cup and spoon for my wife's god-child. And so home by Coach and I late reading in my Chamber; and then to bed, my wife being angry that I keep the house so late up.

11. My brother Tom came to me; and he and I to Mr. Turner the Drapers and paid 15*l* to him for cloth owing to him by my father for our Mourning for my Uncle.³ And so to his house and there invited all the Honiwoods⁴ to dinner on Monday next. So to the Exchange; and there all the news is of the French and Duch joyning against us; but I do not think it yet true.⁵ So home to dinner and in the afternoon to the office; and so to Sir Wm. Battens, where in discourse I heard the Custome of the Eleccion of the Dukes of Genoa, who for two years are every day attended in the greatest state and^c 4 or 500 men always waiting upon him as a king. And when the two years are out and another is chose, a messenger is sent to him, who stands at the bottom of the stairs, and he at the top, and says, *Vostra*

a MS. 'Trices' *b* repl. 'takl'- *c* preceded by symbol rendered illegible

1. A courtier, and an active F.R.S., particularly interested in astronomy.

2. This concerned the dispute over Robert Pepys's estate: see above, ii. 215 & n. 1. The injunction had the effect of stopping Trice's action at common law and bringing it into Chancery, where it slumbered for 18 months: see below, iv. 221 & n. 1.

3. The mourning was for Robert

Pepys of Brampton (d. July 1661). William Turner the draper (Sheriff of London and knight, 1662; Lord Mayor, 1668-9) was a relative of Pepys by marriage.

4. The brothers who lodged at Tom's.

5. They were negotiating a treaty of commerce and mutual defence which was concluded on 17/27 April.

*Illustrissima Serenidad sta finita et puede andar en casa*¹ – “Your serenity is now ended; and now you may be going home;” and so claps on his hat and the old Duke (having by custome sent his goods home before) walks away, it may be but with one man at his heels, and the new one brought immediately in his room, in the greatest state in the world.² Another account was told us, how in the Dukedome of Regusa in the Adriatique (a State that is little, but more ancient they say then Venice, and is called the mother of Venice and the Turkes lie round about it) – that they change all the officers of their guard, for fear of conspiracy, every 24 houres, so that nobody knows who shall be Captain of the guard tonight; but two men come to a man, and lay hold of him as a prisoner and carry him to the place; and there he hath the keys of the garrison given him, and he presently issues his orders for that night’s Watch; and so always, from night to night.³ Sir Wm. Rider told the first of his own knowledge; and both he and Sir Wm. Batten confirm the last.

Hence home and to read; and so to bed, but very late again.

12. *Lords=day*. To church, where a stranger made a very good sermon. At noon, Sir W. Pen and my good fr[iend] Deane Fuller by appointment, and my wife’s brother by chance, dined with me very merry and handsomely. After dinner, the Deane, my wife and I by (Sir Wm. Pens) coach, lent us, he to White-hall and my wife and I to visit Mrs. Pierce and thence Mrs. Turner, who continues very ill still, and The is also fallen sick – which doth trouble me for the poor mother. So home and to read, I being troubled to hear my wife rate, though not without cause, at her mayd Nell, who is a lazy slut.

So to prayers and to bed.

13. All the morning at home, and Mr. Berchenshaw (whom I have not seen a great while, came to see me), who stayed with me a great while talking of Musique; and I am resolved to begin

1. Pepys uses a mixture of Spanish and Italian.

2. For the Doge’s functions (almost entirely ceremonial), see E. Vincens, *Hist. de Gênes* (1842), iii. 99+; J. T. Bent, *Genoa*, p. 12.

3. Cf. L. Villari, *Republic of Ragusa*, pp. 86–7. Venice was in fact the older city.

to learne of him to compose and to begin tomorrow, he giving of me so great hopes that I shall soon do it.¹

Before 12 a-clock comes by appointment Mr. Peter and the Deane and Collonell Honiwood, brothers,² to dine with me. But so soon that I was troubled at it. But however, I entertained them with talk and oysters till one a-clock; and then we sat down to dinner, not staying for my uncle and aunt Wight, at which I was troubled. But they came by and by, and so we dined very merry; at least I seemed so, but the dinner [did] not please me, and less the Deane and Collonell, whom I find to be pitiful sorry gentlemen, though good-natured. But Mr. Peter above them both – who after dinner did show us the experiment (which I have heard talk of) of the Chymicall glasses, which break all to dust by breaking off the little small end – which is a great mystery to me.³ They being gone, my aunt Wight and my wife and I to Cards, she teaching of us two to play at Gleeke,⁴ which is a pretty game but I have not my head so free as to be troubled with it. By and by comes my Uncle Wight back again, and so to supper and talk and then again to Cards, where my wife and I beat them two games and they us one; and so good-night and to bed.

14. All the morning at home – Mr. Berchenshaw, by appointment yesterday, coming to^a me, and begun composition of Musique. And he being gone, I to settle my papers and things in my chamber; and so after dinner, in the afternoon to the office and thence to my chamber about several businesses of the

^a symbol smudged

1. John Birchensha was a violist and music theorist, and had invented 'a mathematical way of composure very extraordinary': Evelyn, 3 August 1664. Pepys's course of lessons lasted until 27 February and cost £5. The diary's references to Pepys's music in this period generally relate to these lessons. (E).

2. I.e. Peter, Michael and Henry Honiwood: see above, p. 7 & n. 4. Michael was Dean of Lincoln.

3. These were often known as 'Prince Rupert's drops' and were made from glass which broke into pieces when the small end was snapped off. The experiment was demonstrated before the 'Royal Society' on 6 March 1661: Birch, i. 17-18; Evelyn, s.d. Peter Honiwood was not a fellow of the Royal Society.

4. A card game for three.

office and my own; and then to supper and to bed. This day my brave vellum covers¹ to keep pictures in came in, which pleases me very much.

15. This morning Mr. Berchenshaw came again; and after he had examined me and taught me something in my work, he and I went to breakfast in my chamber, upon a Coller of brawne. And after we had eaten, he asked me whether we have not committed a fault in eating today, telling me that it is a fast-day, ordered by the parliament to pray for more seasonable weather² – it having hitherto been some summer weather, that it is, both as to warmth and every other thing, just as if it were the middle of May or June, which doth threaten a plague (as all men think) to fallow; for so it was almost the last winter, and the whole year after hath been^a a very sickly time, to this day.³ I did not stir out of my house all day, but con'd my Musique; and at night, after supper to bed.

16. Towards Cheapeside; and in Pauls churchyard saw the Funerall of my Lord Cornwallis, late Steward of the King's house (a bold profane-talking man), go by.⁴ And thence I to the painter's and there paid him 6l for the two pictures and 36s for the two frames. From thence home; and Mr. Holliard and my brother Tom dined with me, and he did give me good advice about my health. In the afternoon at the office; and at night to Sir W. Batten and there saw him and Captain Cock and Stokes play at Cards, and afterwards supped with them. Stokes told us that notwithstanding the country of Gambo is

a repl. 'a'

1. These do not appear to have survived. (OM).

2. The order for a fast came originally from the King (proclamation, 8 January: Steele, no. 3349), and parliament's arrangements (for its own proceedings) had been made in consequence: e.g. *CJ*, viii. 343. It was natural for anyone who had lived through the Puritan Revolution to attribute fasts to parliamentary orders.

3. See above, ii. 131 & n. 4, 155 & n. 3, 168.

4. He was Treasurer of the Household, and had died suddenly of apoplexy. This entry settles the doubt in GEC (iii. 453) about the date of his death. According to Lloyd's *Characters* (qu. ib., loc. cit.) he was 'a man of so cheerful a spirit that no sorrow came next his heart, and of so resolved a mind, that no fear came into his thoughts'.

so unhealthy, yet the people of that place live very long, so as the present King^a there is 150 years old, which they count by Raynes because every year it rains continually four months together. He also told us that the kings there have above 100 wives apiece, and offered him the choice of any of his wives to lie with, and so he did Captain Holmes^{b.1} So home and to bed.

17. To Westminster with Mr. Moore; and there, after several walks up and down to hear news, I met with Mr. Lany the Frenchman, who told me that he had a letter from France last night that tells him that my Lord Hinchinbrooke is dead,² and that he did die yesterday was sennit – which doth surprize [me] exceedingly (though we know that he hath been sick these two months), as^c I hardly ever was in my life. But being fearful that my Lady should come to hear it too suddenly, he and I went up to my Lord Crews and there I dined with him, and after dinner we told him, and the whole family is much disturbed by it. So we consulted what to do to tell my Lady of it; and at last we thought of my going first to Mr. George Mountagu's to hear whether he hath any news of it; which I did, and there find all his house in great heaviness for the death of his son Mr. George Mountagu, who did go with our young gentlemen into France, and that they hear nothing at all of our young Lord; so, believing that thence comes the mistake, I returned to my Lord Crew (in my way in the Piazza seeing a house on fire and all the streets^d full of people to quench it) and told them of it; which they are much glad of, and conclude, and so I hope, that my Lord is well; and so I went to my Lady Sandwich and told her all; and after much talk I parted thence

^a word smudged

^b repl. 'Stok'-

^c MS. 'so'

^d l.h. repl. s.h. 'people'

1. Cf. the description of a visit to one of these kings in Gambia by a slave-trader, Capt. Phillips, in 1694: A. and J. Churchill, *Voyages* (1732), vi. 214+. He estimated his royal host to be c. 60, but says that these tribes kept no account of time (other travellers report them as reckoning in lunar months). Phillips's party

got into severe trouble by merely peeping into the royal wives' quarters.

2. Sandwich's eldest son had been in Paris with his brother since August 1661, in the charge of a tutor. The report was false. He suffered all his life from ill-health, but did not die until 1688.

with my wife (who had been there all the day) and so home and to my musique, and then to bed.

18. This morning I went to Dr. Williams; and there he told me how T. Trice hath spoke to him about getting me to meet, that our difference might be made up between us by ourselves – which I am glad of, and have appointed Monday next to be the day. Thence to the Wardrobe; and there hearing it would be late before they went to dinner, I went and spent some time in Pauls Churchyard among some books; and then returned thither and there dined with my Lady and Sir H. Wright and his Lady, all glad of yesterday's mistake. And after dinner to the office, and then home and wrote letters by the post to my father; and by and by comes Mr. Moore to give me an account how Mr. Mountagu was gone away of a sudden with the fleet, in such haste that he hath left behind some servants and many things of consequence; and among others, my Lord's commission for Ambassador.¹ Whereupon, he and I took coach and to White-hall to my Lord's lodgings to have spoke with Mr. Ralph Mountagu his brother (and here we stayed talking with Sarah and the old man²); but by and by, hearing that he was in Covent Garden, we went thither and at my Lady Harvy's, his sister's, I spoke with him and he tells me that the Comission is not left behind;³ and so I went thence by the same Coach (setting down Mr. Moore) home; and after having wrote a letter to my Lord at 12 a-clock at night by the post, I went to bed.

19. *Lords-day*. To church in the morning, where Mr. Mills preached upon Christ's being offered up for our sins. And there, proving the æquity with what Justice God could lay our sins upon his Son, he did make such a sermon (among other things, pleading from God's universall Sovereignty over all his Creatures, the power he hath of commanding what he would of

1. Edward Mountagu (Sandwich's cousin) had sailed on the 15th with the fleet carrying the new Governor and garrison of Tangier who were to take over the protection of the place from Sandwich's fleet. Routh, p. 12;

Sandwich, p. 117.

2. East the porter.

3. It was delivered to Sandwich, with his instructions, on 1 March: Sandwich, p. 123.

his Son, by the same rule as that he might have made us all and the whole world from the beginning to have been in hell, arguing from the power the potter hath over his clay), that I could have wished he had let it alone. And speaking again, that God the Father is now so satisfyd by our Security for our debt that we might say at the last day, as many of us as have interest in Christ's death – Lord, we owe thee nothing – our debt is paid – we are not beholden to thee for anything, for thy debt is paid thee to the full – which methinks were very bold words.

Home to dinner; and then my wife and I on foot to see Mrs. Turner, who continues still sick; and thence into the old Bayly by appointment, to speak with Mrs. Norbury who lies at, it falls out, next door to my uncle Fenners; but (as God would have it, we having no desire to be seen by his people, he having lately married a midwife that is old and ugly and that hath already brought home to him a daughter and three children)¹ we were let in at a back doore. And here she offered me the refusall of some lands of her at Brampton, if I had a mind to buy – which I answered her I was not at present provided to do.² She took occasion to talk of her Sister Wights making much of the Wights; who for name sake only my uncle doth show great kindnesse to, and I fear may do us that are nearer to him a great deal of wrong, if he should die without children – which I am sorry for.³ Thence to my uncle Wights and there we supped and were merry – though my uncle hath lately lost 2 or 300 at sea, and I am troubled to heare that the Turkes do take more and more of our ships in the Straights, and that our Merchants here in London do daily break, and are still likely to do so.⁴

1. Thomas Fenner's first wife (sister of Pepys's mother) had died in August 1661.

2. Cf. above, ii. 124.

3. George Norbury and William Wight had married sisters. The latter (half-brother of Pepys's father) was a merchant of London whose only son had died. In 1664 he proposed to Elizabeth Pepys that they should together have a child whom he would make his heir: below, v. 145–6. He died intestate in 1672 leaving £4000, of which, after litigation

with his widow, Pepys's father was awarded one-third of a moiety: Whitear, pp. 161–5.

4. Twenty-two ships had been taken, 11 of them English: *CSPVen.* 1661–4, p. 94 (13 January). On 27 January the Venetian resident reported the capture of two further English ships and the unsuccessful chase of a third: *ib.*, p. 100. This despite the presence of a Dutch and an English fleet in the W. Mediterranean.

So home and I put in at Sir W. Batten's, where Major Holmes was; and in our discourse and drinking, I did begin Sir J. Mennes's health – which he Swore^a he would not pledge, and called him knave and coward (upon that business of Holmes's with the Swedish shipp lately),¹ which we all, and I perticularly, did desire him^b to forbear, he being of our fraternity; which he took in great dudgeon, and I was vexed to hear him persist in calling him so, though I believe it to be true; but however, he is to blame and I am troubled at it.² So home and to prayers, and to bed.

20. This morning Sir Wm. Batten and Penn and [I] did begin the examining the Treasurers accounts – the first that ever he hath passed in the office. Which is very long – and we were all at it till noon. Then to dinner, he providing a fine dinner for us; and we eate it at Sir Wm. Batten's, where we were very merry, there being at table the Treasurer and we three – Mr. Wayth, Fenn, Smith, Turner, and Mr. Morrice the Wine Cooper (who this day did divide the two butts, which we four did send for, of Sherry from Cales, and mine was put into a hogshhead and the vessell filled up with four gallons of Malago wine; but what it will stand us in I know not, but it is the first great Quantity of wine that I ever bought).³ And after dinner to the office all the afternoon, till late at night. And then home, where my aunt and uncle Wight and Mrs. Anne Wight came to play at Cards (at gleeke, which she taught me and my wife the last week); and so to supper and then to Cards, and so good-night. Then I to my practice of Musique and then at 12 a-clock to bed.

This day the workmen begin to make me a sellar door out of the back yard – which will much please me.

21. To the finishing of the Treasurers accounts this morning; and then to dinner again, and were merry as yesterday. And

a l.h. repl. s.h. 'sord'

b l.h. repl. s.h. 'to'

1. See above, ii. 212 & n. 3.

2. On 7 December 1661 Pepys in his loyalty to Sandwich had been 'glad to hear' this reflection on Mennes.

3. It was usual to buy wine by the

cask; the habit of maturing it in bottles did not come in until the early 18th century with the introduction of cork stoppers: cf. below, iv. 18 & n. 2. A hogshhead usually held c. 50 gallons.

so home; and then to the office till night, and then home to write letters and to practise my composition of Musique, and then to bed. We have heard nothing yet how far the fleet hath got toward Portugall. But the wind being changed again, we fear they are stopped and may be beat back again to the coast of Ireland.

22. After Musique practice, to Whitehall and thence to Westminster, in my way calling at Mr. George Mountagu's to condole him the loss of his son – who was a fine gentleman, and no doubt it is a great discomfort to our two young gentlemen, his companions in France. After this discourse, he told me, among other news, the great Jealousys that are now in the Parliament-house – the Lord Chancellor, it seems, taking occasion from this late plot¹ to raise fears in the people, did project the raising of an army forthwith, besides the constant Militia, thinking to make the Duke of Yorke Generall thereof. But the House did in very open tearmes say they were grown too wise to be fooled again into another army; and said they have found how the man that hath the command of an army is not beholden to anybody to make him King.² There are factions (private ones at Court) about Madam Palmer; but what it is about I know not. But it is something about the King's favour to her, now that the Queene is coming.

He told me too, what sport the King and Court do make at Mr. Edw. Mountagu's leaving his things behind him.³ But the Chancellor (taking it a little more seriously) did openly say to my Lord Chamberlaine that had it been such a gallant as my Lord Mandevill, his son,⁴ it might have been taken as a frolique.

1. The Yarranton Plot: see above, ii. 225 & n. 1.

2. Mountagu was M.P. for Dover and is here reporting a debate on the militia bill held on this day: *CJ*, viii. 349. It had been proposed in committee to raise a new army under the Duke: *CSPVen*. 1661-4, pp. 91, 106. A similar rumour that the Duke was to be made general is reported below, at 6 December 1665. Clarendon's

enemies (quite unjustly) accused him of attempting to introduce a sort of militarism into government – a charge revived at his impeachment in 1667, and made colourable by his relationship to the Duke, his son-in-law.

3. See above, p. 12.

4. Viscount Mandeville, eldest son of the 2nd Earl of Manchester (Lord Chamberlain).