

THE DIARY

1668—1669

JANUARY 166 $\frac{7}{8}$

1. Up, and all the morning in my chamber making up some accounts against this beginning of the new year; and so about noon abroad with my wife, who was to dine with W. Hewer and Willett at Mrs. Pierce's; but I had no mind to be with them, for I do clearly find that my wife is troubled at my friendship with her and Knepp, and so dined with^a my Lord Crew, with whom was Mr. Browne, Clerk of the House of Lords, and Mr. John Crew.¹ Here was mighty good discourse, as there is alway; and among other things, my Lord Crew did turn to a place in the *Life of Sir Ph. Sidney*, wrote by Sir Fulke Grevill, which doth foretell the present condition of this nation in relation to the Dutch, to the^b very degree of a prophecy; and is so remarkable that I am resolved to buy one of them, it being quite through a good discourse.² Here they did talk much of the present cheapness of Corne,^c even to a miracle; so as their^d farmers can pay no rent, but do fling up their lands – and would pay in corne;³ but (which I did observe to my Lord, and he liked well of it) our gentry are grown so ignorant in everything of good husbandry, that they know not how to bestow this corn; which, did they understand but a little trade, they would be able to joyne together, and know what markets there are abroad and send it thither, and thereby ease their tenants and be able to pay themselves. They did talk much of the disgrace the Archbishop is fallen

a repl. 'at'
c repl. 'br'–

b repl. 'to'
d repl. 'the'

1. John Browne (*recte* Clerk of the Parliaments) was Lord Crew's brother-in-law; John Crew his second son.

2. The French attack on the Spanish Netherlands was now driving England and Holland together (the alliance between them being concluded this

month) just as they had been driven together in Sidney's time in common resistance to Spain. Cf. Sir Fulke Greville (Lord Brooke), *Life of the renowned Sir Philip Sidney* (1652), pp. 25, 68, 227. Pepys acquired a copy of the 1652 edition: PL 214.

3. Cf. above, viii. 158, n. 1.

under with the King, and the rest of the Bishops also.¹ Thence I after dinner to the Duke of York's playhouse, and there saw *Sir Martin Marrall*, which I have seen so often;² and yet am mightily pleased with it and think it mighty witty, and the fullest of proper matter for mirth that ever was writ.³ And I do clearly see that they do improve in their acting of it. Here a mighty company of citizens, prentices and others; and it makes me observe that when I begin first to be able to bestow a play on myself, I do not remember that I saw so many by half of the ordinary prentices and mean people in the pit, at 2s-6d apiece, as now; I going for several years no higher then the 12d, and then the 18d places,³ and though I strained hard to go in then when I did – so much the vanity and prodigality of the age is to be observed in this perticular. Thence I to White-hall, and there walked up and down the House a while and do hear nothing of anything done further in this business of the change of Privy-counsellors.⁴ Only, I hear that Sir G. Savill, one of the Parliament committee of nine for examining the accounts, is by the King made a Lord, the Lord Hallifax; which I believe will displease the Parliament.⁵ By and by I met with Mr. Brisban; and having it⁹ in my mind this Christmas to (do what I never can remember that I did) go to see the manner of the gaming at the Groome porter's⁶ (I having in my coming from the playhouse

a repl. 'in'

b repl. 'in'

1. Because of their defence of Clarendon: see above, viii. 532 & n. 3.

2. Pepys had already seen Dryden's comedy (q.v. above, viii. 387, n. 1), in whole or in part, five times. (A).

3. 1s. and 1s. 6d. were the prices of admission to the upper gallery and the middle gallery respectively. (A).

4. See above, viii. 596 & n. 1.

5. By a vote of 2 December none of the Brooke House committee (q.v. above, viii. 559, n. 2) was to be

a member of either House. But Halifax played no great part in the committee's work, and no parliamentary criticism of his appointment seems to have been made. The warrant for his peerage was issued on 31 December; the patent on 13 January.

6. A court official at Whitehall Palace: for his duties as controller of the gaming at court, see above, iii. 293, n. 1. The post was now held by Thomas Offley.

stepped into the two Temple-halls,¹ and there saw the dirty prentices and idle people playing – wherein I was mistaken in thinking to have seen gentlemen of quality playing there, as I think it was when I was a little child,^a that one of my father's servants, John Bassum I think, carried me in his armes thither), I did tell him of it and he did lead me thither; where after staying an hour, they^b begin to play at about 8^c at night – where to see how differently one^d man took his losing from another, one cursing and swearing, and another only muttering and grumbling to himself, a third without any appearing discontent at all – to see how the dice will run good luck in one hand for half an hour together – and another have no good luck at all. To see how easily here, where they play nothing but guinnys, 100^e is won or lost. To see two or three gentlemen come in there drunk, and putting their stock^f of gold together – one 22 pieces, the second 4, and the third 5 pieces; and these to play one with another, and forget how much each of them brought, but he that brought the 22 think that he brought no more then the rest. To see the different humours of gamesters to change their luck when it is bad – how ceremonious they are as to call for new dice – to shift their places – to alter their manner of throwing; and that with great industry, as if there was anything in it. To see how some old gamesters, that have no money now to spend as formerly, do come and sit and look on; as among others, Sir Lewes Dives,² who was here and hath been a great gamester in his time. To hear their cursing and damning to no purpose; as one man, being to throw a seven if he could^g and failing to do it after a great many throws,^g cried he would be damned if ever he flung seven more while he lived, his despair of throwing it

a repl. 'boy' b repl. 'or two' c repl. '9'
 d s.h. repl. '1' e repl. 'gold'
 f repl. 'doth' g l.h. repl. s.h.

1. The Halls of the Inner and Middle Temple, where (as in college halls at Oxford and Cambridge) gaming was permitted during the twelve days of Christmas. When the floorboards of Middle Temple Hall were taken up c. 1764 nearly 100

pairs of dice were found: J. Ashton, *Hist. gambling in Engl.*, p. 27.

2. Sir Lewis Dyve (1599–1669), of Bromham, Beds. He had lost heavily in serving the royalist cause during the civil wars.

being so great, while others did it as their luck served, almost every throw. To see how persons of the best quality do here sit down and play with people of any, though meaner; and to see how people in ordinary clothes^a shall come hither and play away 100, or 2 or 300 guinnys, without any kind of difficulty. And lastly, to see the formality of the Groome-porter, who is their judge of all disputes in play and all quarrels that may arise therein;¹ and how his under-officers are there to observe true play at each table and to give new dice, is a consideration I never could have thought had been in the world, had I not now seen it. And mighty glad I am that I did see it; and it may be will find another evening, before Christmas be over, to see it again; when I may stay later, for their heat^b of play begins not till about 11 or 12 a-clock; which did give me another pretty observation, of a man that did win mighty fast when I was there: I think he won 100*l* at single pieces in a little time; while all the rest envied him his good fortune, he cursed it, saying, "A pox on it that it should come so earely upon 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; where, not finding my wife come home, I took the same coach again; and leaving my watch behind for fear of robbing, I did go back and to Mr. Pierce's, thinking they might not have broken up yet, but there I find my wife newly gone; and not going out of my coach, spoke only to Mr. Pierce in his nightgown* in the street; and so away back again home, and there to supper with my wife and to talk about their dancing and doings at Mrs. Pierce's today; and so to bed.

^a repl. 'know'

^b MS. 'height'

1. Cf. the example (22 June 1666) in *Savile Corr.* (ed. W. D. Cooper), p. 10.

2. Up, and with Sir Jo. Minnes by coach to White-hall; and there attended the King and the Duke of York in the Duke of York's lodgings with the rest of the officers and many of the commanders of the fleet and some of our maister-Shipwrights, to discourse the business of having the topmasts of ships made to lower abaft of the mainmast¹ – a business I understood not, and so can give no good account; but I do see that by how much greater the Council and the number of councillors is, the more confused the issue is of their counsels; so that little was said to the purpose regularly, and but little use was^a made of it, they coming to a very broken conclusion upon it: to make trial in a ship or two. From this they fell to other talk about the fleet's fighting this late war, and how the King's ships have been scattered; though the King said that the world would not have it that above^b ten or twenty ships in any fight did do any service, and that this hath been told so to him himself by ignorant people. The Prince, who was there, was mightily surprized at it, and seemed troubled; but the King told him that it was only discourse of the world; but Mr. Wren whispered me in the eare, and said that the Duke of Albemarle had put it into his Narrative for the House, that not above 25 ships fought in the engagement wherein he was, but that he was advised^c to leave it out; but this he did write from sea, I am sure, or words to that effect² – and did displace many commanders; among others,^d Captain Batts,³ who the Duke of York said was a very stout man, all the world knew; and that another was brought into his ship that had been turned off his place when he was a bosun not long before for being a Drunkerd: this the Prince took notice of, and would

^a repl. 'came'

^b MS. 'about'

^c followed by '-ed' struck through

^d repl. same symbol badly formed

1. The established practice was to lower them before the mainmast.

2. See Albemarle to Coventry, the *Royal Charles*, 6 June 1666: 'I assure you I never fought with worse officers than now in my life, for not above twenty of them behaved themselves like men' (Smith, i. 110). The

reference was to the Four Days Battle. For his narrative, see above, viii. 514 & n. 1.

3. George Batts of the *Unicorne*; Coventry had thought him capable of becoming a good commander: above, iv. 196. He never held another command.

have been angry, I think, but they let their discourse fall; but the Duke of York was earnest in it and the Prince said to me, standing by me, "God damn me, if they will turn out every man that will be drunk, he must turn out all the commanders in the fleet. What is the matter if [he] be drunk, so when he comes to fight he doth his work? At least, let him be punished for his drunkenness, and not put out of his command presently." This he spoke, very much concerned for this idle fellow, one Greene.¹ After this, the King begin to tell stories of the Cowardize of the Spaniards in Flanders when he was there at the siege of Mardike and Dunkirke² – which was very pretty, though he tells them but meanly. This being done, I to Westminster-hall and there stayed a little; and then home, and by the way did find with difficulty the *Life of Sir Ph. Sidney* (the book I mention^a yesterday); and the bookseller told me that he had sold four within^b these week or two, which is more then ever he sold in all his life of them and he could not imagine what should be the reason of it. But I suppose it is from the same reason, of people's observing of this part therein, touching his prophesying our present condition here in England in relation to the Dutch – which is very remarkable. So home to dinner, where Balty's wife is come to town; she came last night and lay at my house, but being weary, was gone to bed before I came home and so I saw her not before. After dinner I took my wife and her and girl out to the New Exchange, and there my wife bought herself a lace for a handkercher, which I do give her, of about 3l,³ for a <new> year's gift, and I did buy also a lace for a band for myself; and so home, and there to the office busy late; and so

a repl. 'mentioned'

b repl. 'in'

1. Levi Greene, later (1672) dismissed by court martial.

2. In the winter of 1657–8, when the King had served under Turenne with a Franco-English force at the siege of Mardyck. It was generally thought that the Spaniards had abandoned the town's defence too soon. The loss of Dunkirk in the following summer was due to other

reasons – principally to the Spanish defeat in June at the battle of the Dunes (in which the Dukes of York and Gloucester had fought). Cf. Duke of York, *Memoirs* . . . 1652–60 (ed. A. Lytton Sells), pp. 243+; Clarendon, *Hist.*, vi. 33+, 81+.

3. The lace was of gold- or silver-thread.

home to my chamber, where busy on some accounts, and then to supper and to bed. This day my wife shows me a Locket of Dyamond's, worth about 40*l*, which W. Hewer doth press her to accept,^a and hath done for a good while, out of his gratitude for my kindness and hers to him. But I do not like that she should receive it, it not being honourable for me to do it; and so do desire her to force him to take it back^b again, he leaving it against her will yesterday with her. And she did this evening force him to take it back, at which she says he is troubled; but however, it becomes me more to refuse than to let her accept of it – and so I am well pleased with her returning it him. It is generally believed that France is endeavouring a firmer league with us than the former, in order to his going on with his business against Spayne the next year; which I am, and so everybody else I think, very glad of, for all our fear is of his invading us.¹

This day at White-hall I overheard <Sir W. Coventry> propose to the King his ordering* of some perticular^c thing in the Wardrobe; which was of no great value, but yet, as much as it was, it was of profit to the King and saving to his purse. The King answered to it with great indifferency, as a thing that it was no great matter whether it was done or no. Sir W. Coventry answered: "I see your Majesty doth not remember the old English proverb^d, 'He that will not stoop for a pin, will never be worth a pound'", and so they parted, the King bidding him do as he would – which methought was an answer not like a King^e that did intend ever to do well.

a repl. ? 'replace' b repl. 'bad' c repl. 'thing'
 d MS. 'provert' e repl. 'thing'

1. France was busy isolating her enemy Spain, and had already in December concluded agreements with Brandenburg and the Emperor. Her attempt to bring off a bargain with England was now on the brink of failure. Her last offer had been made on 25 December/4 January, and England switched courses to join Holland and Sweden in the anti-French Triple Alliance on 13/23

January. (See Feiling, pp. 248+.) The previous Anglo-French treaty was that of 8 April 1667 in which England and France had agreed not to ally with each other's enemies: Feiling, p. 218. For the fear of a French invasion of England, see below, pp. 18, 30; newsletters (10, 31 December 1667) in BM, Add. 36916, ff. 42, 56.

3. At the office all the morning with Mr. Willson and my clerks, consulting again about a new contract with the Victualler of the Navy;¹ and at noon^a home to dinner and thence to the office again, where busy all the afternoon, preparing something for the Council about Tanger this^b evening; so about 5 a-clock away with it to the Council, and there do find that the Council hath altered its times of sitting to the mornings, and so I lost my labour; and back again by coach presently, round by the City wall, it being dark; and so home and there to the office, where till midnight with Mr. Willson and my people to go through with the Victualler's contract and the considerations about the new one; and so home to supper and to bed – thinking my time very well spent.

4. Up, and then^c to the office, where we sat all the morning. At noon home to dinner, where my clerks and Mr. Clerke the Sollicitor with me; and dinner being done, I to the office again, where all the afternoon till late busy; and then home, with my mind pleased at the pleasure of despatching my business; and so to supper and to bed – my thoughts full, how to order^d our design of having some dancing at our house on Monday next, being Twelfth-day.

It seems worth remembering that this day I did hear my Lord Anglesy at the table, speaking touching this new Act for Accounts,² say that the House of Lords did pass it because it was a senseless, impracticable, ineffectual, and foolish Act; and that my Lord Ashly having^e shown this that it was so to the House of Lords, the Duke of Buckingham did stand up and told the Lords that [they] were beholden to my Lord Ashly, that^f having first commended them for a most grave and honourable assembly, he thought it fit for the House to pass this Act for Accounts because it was a foolish and simple Act. And it seems it was passed with but a few in the House, when it was intended to

<i>a</i> repl. 'home'	<i>b</i> repl. 'tonight'	<i>c</i> MS. 'there'
<i>d</i> repl. 'ordering'	<i>e</i> repl. 'after'	<i>f</i> repl. same symbol

1. For Gauden's contract, see above, viii. 567 & n. 3; below, p. 316 & n. 1, pp. 317-18 & n.

2. The act establishing the Brooke

House Committee which was to enquire into the war finances: above, viii. 559, n. 2.

have met in a Grand Committee upon it.¹ And it seems that in itself it is not to be practised till after this session of Parliament, by the very words of the Act which nobody regarded, and therefore cannot come in force yet, unless the next meeting^a they do make a new Act for the bringing it into force sooner – which is a strange omission.² But I perceive my Lord Anglesy doth make a mere laughing-stock of this act, as a thing that can do nothing considerable for all its great Noise.

5. *Lords=day*. Up; and being ready, and disappointed of a coach, it breaking a wheel^b just as [it] was coming for me, I walked as far as the Temple, it being dirty. And as I went out of my doors, my cousin Anth. Joyce met me and so walked part of the way with me; and it was to see what I would do upon what his wife a little while since did desire, which was to supply him with 350*l*, to enable him to give^c to build his house again.³ I (who in my nature am mighty unready to answer Noe to anything, and thereby wonder that I have suffered no more in my life by my easiness in that kind than I have) answered him that I would do it; and so I will, he offering me good security. And so it being left for me to consider the manner of doing it, we parted – taking coach, as I said before, at the Temple; I to Charing-cross and there went into Unthanked to have my shoes wiped, dirty with walking; and so to White-hall, where I visited the vice-chamberlain, who tells me, and so I find by others, that the business of putting out of some of the Privy-council^d is over, the King being at last advised to forbear it;⁴ for whereas he did design it to make room for some of the House of Commons that are against him, thereby to gratify them, it is believed that it will but so much the more fret the rest that are not provided for, and raise a new stock of enemies by them that are displaced. And so all they think is over. And it goes for a pretty saying

a repl. 'sitting' b repl. same symbol
c possibly 'go' d repl. 'great'

1. On 18 December 1667 it had been remitted to a select committee instead of to a Committee of the Whole: *LJ*, xii. 175–6.

2. A mistake; the Committee

began work later in the month: below, p. 34.

3. See above, viii. 586 & n. 1.

4. Cf. above, viii. 596 & n. 1.

of my Lord Anglesy's up and down the Court, that he should lately say to one of them that are the great promoters of this putting him and others out of the Council – "Well," says he, "and what are we to look for when we are outed; will all things be set right in the nation?" The other said that he did believe that many things would be mended: "but," says my Lord, "will you and the rest of you be contented to be hanged, if you do not redeem all our misfortunes and set all right, if the power be put into your hands?" The other answered No, he would not undertake that. "Why then," says my Lord, "I, and the rest of us that you are labouring to put out, will be contented to be hanged if we do not recover all that is passed, if the King will put the power into our hands and adhere wholly to our advice" – which saying,^a as it was severe,^b so generally people have so little opinion of the people that are now likely to be uppermost, that they do mightily commend my Lord Anglesy for this saying.

From the Vicechamberlain, up and down the House till Chapel done, and then did speak with several that I had a mind to; and so, intending to go home, my Lady Carteret saw and called me out of her window, and so would have me home with her to Lincoln's Inne-fields to dinner; and there we met with my Lord Brereton and several other strangers, to dine there; and I find him a very sober and serious, able man, and was in discourse too hard for the Bishop of Chester,¹ who dined there; and who, above all books lately wrote, commending the matter and style of a late book called *The Causes of the Decay of Piety*,²

a repl. 'true'

b repl. 'so'

1. George Hall was Bishop of Chester, 1662–68. Brereton was chairman of the Brooke House Committee. For his roughness in argument, see Bryant, ii. 21+.

2. *The causes of the decay of Christian piety . . . written by the author of The whole duty of man* was published anonymously in 1667; another edition appeared in 1668 and many others later. *The whole duty of man* (1658), also published anonymously, was one of the most popular devotional

books of its time. They were possibly, though not certainly, by the same author, usually identified as Dr Richard Allestree, the Oxford theologian. They were published (with other works from the same pen) as *The works of the learned and pious author of The whole duty of man* at Oxford in 1684. PL 1086 (*Causes*, 1694 ed.); PL 1083 (*Whole duty*, 1702 ed.). See P. Elmen in *The Library* (ser. 5), 6/19+.

I do resolve at his great commendation to buy it. Here dined also Sir Ph. Howard, a Barkeshire Howard,¹ whom I did once hear swear publicly and loud in the Matted Gallery, that he had not been at a wench in so long time. He did take occasion to tell me at the table that I have got great ground in the Parliament by my ready answers to all that was asked me there about the business of Chatham,² and they would never let me be out of employment – of which I made little,^a but was glad to hear him, as well as others, say it. And he did say also, relating to Commissioner Pett, that he did not think that he was guilty of anything like a fault that he was either able or concerned to amend, but only the not carrying up of the ships higher^b (he meant – but he said three or four times “lower” down to Rochester bridge; which is a strange piece of ignorance in a Member of Parliament, at such a time as this and after so many examinations in the House of this business); and did boldly declare that he did think the fault to lie in my Lord Middleton, who had the power of the place to secure the boats that were made ready by Pett and to do anything that he thought fit – and was much, though not altogether, in the right, for Spragg, that commanded the River, ought rather to be charged with the want of the boats and the misemploying of them. After dinner my Lord Brereton very gently went to the Organ and played a verse very handsomely. Thence after dinner away with Sir G. Carteret to White-hall (setting down my Lord Brereton at my Lord Bruncker’s) and there up and down the House and on the Queenes side to see the ladies; and there saw the Duchesse of York, whom few pay the respect they used, I think, to her;³ but she bears all out with a very great deal of greatness, that is the truth of it. And so it growing night, I away home by coach, and there set my wife to read; and then comes Pelling, and he and I to sing a little; and then sup and so to bed.

a repl. same symbol

b l.h. repl. s.h.

1. I.e. a son of the Earl of Berkshire. He was M.P. for Carlisle and Colonel of Albemarle’s troop of the Life Guard.

2. See above, viii. 494–6.

3. Her father Clarendon had been dismissed in the previous autumn.

6.^a 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 White-hall 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. Harris¹ 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^b 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 voudrais haver hazer algo with her, sed she was gone; and so I took coach, and away to my wife at the Duke^c 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 there fell to dancing, having extraordinary music, two violins and a bass viallin and Theorbo (four hands), the Duke of Buckingham's

a repl. 's'

b repl. 'little'

c repl. 'play'

1. Henry Harris, a leading actor at the Duke of York's Theatre. (A).

Musique, the best in Towne, sent me by Greeting;¹ and there we set in^a to dancing. By and by to my house to a very good supper, and mighty merry and good music playing; and after supper to dancing and singing till about 12^b at night; and then we had a good sack-posset for them and an excellent Cake,² cost me near 20s. of our Jane's making,^c which was cut into twenty pieces, there being by this time so many of our company by the coming in of young Goodyer and some others of our neighbours, young men that could dance, hearing of our dancing; and anon comes in Mrs. Turner the mother and brings with her Mrs. Hollworthy,³ which pleased me mightily; and so to dancing again^d and singing with extraordinary great pleasure, till about 2 in the morning; and then broke up, and Mrs. Pierce and her family and Harris and Knip by coach home, as late as it was; and they gone, I took Mrs. Turner and Hollworthy home to my house and there gave them^e wine and sweetmeats; but I find Mrs. Hollworthy but a mean woman, I think, for understanding; only, a little conceited and proud and talking, but nothing extraordinary in person or discourse or understanding. However, I was mightily pleased^f with her being there, I having long longed for to know her; and they being gone, I paid the fiddler 3^l among the four, and so away to bed, weary and mightily pleased; and have the happiness to reflect upon it as I do sometimes on other things, as going to a play or the like, to be the greatest real comforts that I am to expect in the world, and that it is that that we do really labour in the hopes of; and so I do really enjoy myself, and understand that if I do not do it now, I shall not hereafter, it may be, be able to pay for it or have health to take pleasure in it, and so fool myself with vain expectation of pleasure and go without it.

7. Up, weary, about 9 a-clock; and then out by coach to

a repl. 'into' *b* repl. 'one in the morning' *c* preceded by smudge
d MS. 'a again' *e* repl. 'her' *f* MS. 'pleased and'

1. Pepy's flageolet master. (E). 3. A widow and 'a woman of
 2. A Twelfth-Night cake: cf. state and wit and spirit': above, viii.
 above, i. 10, n. 3. 141.

White-hall to attend the Lords of the Treasury about Tanger with Sir St. Fox;¹ and having done with them, I away back again home by coach, time enough to despatch some business; and after dinner, with Sir W. Penn's coach (he being gone before with Sir D Gawden) to White-hall to wait on the Duke of York; but I finding him not there, nor the Duke of York within, I away by coach to the Nursery,² where I never was yet, and there to meet my wife and Mercer and Willet as they promised; but the House did not act today and so I was at a loss for them, and therefore to the other two playhouses into the pits to gaze up and down to look for them, and there did by this means for nothing see an Act in *The Schoole of Compliments* at the Duke of York's House and *Henery the 4th* at the King's House;³ but not finding them, nor liking either of the plays, I took my coach again and home, and there to my office to do business; and by and by they came home, and had been at the King's House and saw me, but I could [not] see them; and there I walked with them in the garden a while, and to sing with Mercer there a little; and so home with her and taught her a little of my *It is decreed*,⁴ which I have a mind to have her learn to sing, and she will do it well; and so after supper she went away, and we to bed and there made amends by sleep for what I wanted last night.

8. Up; and it being dirty, I by coach (which I was forced to go to the Change for) to White-hall, and there did deliver the Duke of York a Memoriall for the Council about the case of

1. Sir Stephen Fox was Paymaster-General to the army. He and Pepys were called in about the assignments on the country excise for the garrisons. 'Mr. Pepys will return answer as soon as may be': *CTB*, ii. 218.

2. A minor theatre opened in 1667 at Hatton Garden for the training of the young actors of the two patent theatres. Nominally licensed to Capt. Edward Bedford, it was controlled by Thomas Killigrew and

Davenant, managers of the patent theatres. In the prologue to John Dover's *The Roman Generalls* (licensed for publication in 1667) it is referred to as 'both the Houses Nursery'. (A).

3. A comedy by Shirley, and Pt I of Shakespeare's play respectively: see above, viii. 375, n. 2; i. 325, n. 1. Theatregoers could see one act free if they undertook to leave at the end of it or to pay if they stayed. (A).

4. See above, vii. 91, n. 4. (E).