

there into the church, the bells ringing, and saw the place I used to sit in; and so to the ferry, and ferried over to the other side and walked with great pleasure, the river being mighty high by Barnwell Abbey; and so by Jesus College to the town, and so to our quarters and to supper; and then to bed, being very weary and sleepy, and mightily pleased with this night's walk.

26. Up by 4 a-clock; and by the time we were ready and had eat, we were called to the coach; where about 6 a-clock we set out, there being a man and two women of one company, ordinary people, and one lady alone that is tolerable handsome, but mighty well spoken, whom I took great pleasure in talking to, and did get her to read aloud in a book she was reading in the coach, being the King's Meditations; and then the boy and I to sing, and so about noon came to Bishop's Stafford, to another house then what we were at the other day, and better used; and here I paid for the reckoning 11s., we dining all together and pretty merry. And then set out again, sleeping most part of the way, and got to Bishopsgate street before 8 a-clock, the waters being now most of them down, and we avoiding the bad way in the Forrest by a privy way which brought us to Hodsdene, and so to Tibalds that road – which was mighty pleasant. So home, where we find all well, and Brother Balty and his wife looking to the house, she mighty fine in a new gold-laced juste-au-corps. I shifted myself, and so to see Mrs. Turner; and Mercer appearing over the way, called her in and sat and talked; and then home to my house by and by and there supped and talked mighty merry; and then broke up and to bed – being a little vexed at what W. Hewers tells me Sir Jo. Shaw did this day in my absence say at the Board, complaining of my doing of him injury and the board permitting it; whereas they had more reason to except against his attributing that to me alone which I could not do but with their consent and direction, it being to very good service to the King, and what I shall be proud [to] have imputed to me alone. The King, I hear, came to town last night.

29. To Sir G. Carteret's to dinner, with much good company, it being the King's birthday and many healths drunk; and here I did receive another letter from my Lord Sandwich; which troubles me, to see how I have neglected him, in not writing, or but once, all this time of his being abroad. And I see he takes notice, but yet gently, of it, that it puts me to great trouble and I know not how to get out