

Wren some business to do, he puts them into my hand like an idle companion, to take home with me before himself had read them; which doth give me great opportunity of altering my answer, if there was cause. So took a hackney and home; and after supper made my wife to read them all over, wherein she is mighty useful to me. And I find them all evasions, and in many things false, and in few to the full purpose. Little said reflective on me, though W. Penn and J. Mennes do mean me in one or two places, and J. Mennes a little more plainly would lead the Duke of York to question the exactness of my keeping my records – but all to no purpose. My mind is mightily pleased by this, if I can but get them to have a copy taken of them for my future use; but I must return them tomorrow. So to bed.

15. Up mighty betimes, my wife and people, Mercer lying here all night, by 3 a-clock and I about 5; and they before and I after them to the Coach in Bishopsgate street; which was not ready to set out, so took wife and Mercer, Deb and W. Hewer (who all set out this day for Cambridge to Cosen Rogr. Pepys's to see Sturbridge fayre) and I showed them the Exchange, which is very finely and carried on with good despatch.

16. To the office, and thence to St. James's to the Duke of York – walking it to the Temple; and in my way observe that the Stockes are now pulled quite down, and it will make the coming into Cornhill and Lumber street mighty noble. I stopped too at Paul's, and there did go into St. Fayth's church and also into the body of the west part of the church, and do see a hideous sight, of the walls of the church ready to fall, that I was in fear as long as I was in it. And here I saw the great vaults underneath the body of the church. No hurt, I hear, is done yet, since their going to pull down the church and steeple; but one man, on Monday this week, fell from the top to a piece of the roof of the east end that stands next the steeple, and there broke himself all to pieces. It is pretty here, to see how the last church was but a case brought over the old church; for you may see the very old pillars standing whole within the wall of this. When I came to St. James's, I find the Duke of York gone with the King to see the muster of the Guards in Hyde Park; and their colonel, the Duke of Monmouth, to take his command this day of the King's Life-Guard, by surrender of my Lord Gerard's. So I took a hackney coach and saw it all; and endeed, it was mighty noble and their