

Monday 28
Vere here I sitting behind in a dark place, a lady spit backward upon me by a mistake, not seeing me, but after seeing her to be a very pretty lady, I was not troubled at it at all.

Tuesday 29
[Salisbury] THE MAID IN THE MILL. [By John Fletcher and William Rowley.] Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 19) implies a partial cast: Amintas – William Betterton; Maid – James Nokes. Gildon (*Life of Betterton*, 1710, p. 174) states that Thomas Betterton also had a considerable role in it.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: To Blackfryars [presumably a slip for Whitefriars, Salisbury Court] (the first time I ever was there since plays begun), and there after great patience and little expectation, from so poor beginning, I saw three acts of "The Mayd in ye Mill," acted to my great content. But it being late, I left the play.

Wednesday 30

A FAST DAY FOR THE MARTYRDOM OF CHARLES I

COMMENT. See Pepys, *Diary*, 27 Jan. For several decades this day was regularly observed as a Fast Day, with no plays acted.

Thursday 31
Vere ARGALUS AND PARTHENIA. [By Henry Glapthorne.] *Cast not known*.
COMMENT. See Herbert, *Dramatic Records*, p. 117. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: To the Theatre, and there sat in the pit among the company of fine ladys, &c.; and the house was exceeding full, to see Argalus and Parthenia, the first time that it hath been acted: and indeed it is good, though wronged by my over great expectations, as all things else are.

February 1661

Tuesday 5
Vere ARGALUS AND PARTHENIA. [By Henry Glapthorne.] *Cast not known*.
COMMENT. The King's Company. See Herbert (*Dramatic Records*, p. 117), where are listed *The Loyall Subject*, *Mad Lover*, *The Wildgoose Chase* following this play but preceding April 1661. Pepys, *Diary*: I went by coach to the play-house at the Theatre, our coach in King Street breaking, and so took another. Here we saw Argalus and Parthenia, which I lately saw, but though pleasant for the dancing and singing, I do not find good for any wit or design therein.

Saturday 9
Salisbury THE MAD LOVER. [By John Fletcher.] *Cast not known*, but Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 18) refers to Betterton's playing a role.
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: Creed and I to Whitefriars to the Play-house, and saw "The Mad Lover," the first time I ever saw it acted, which I like pretty well.

Tuesday 12
Vere THE SCORNFUL LADY. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.] *Cast not known*.
COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: We went by water to Salisbury Court play-house, where not liking to sit, we went out again, and by coach to the Theatre, and there saw "The Scornful Lady," now done by a woman, which makes the play appear much better than ever it did to me.

Saturday 16
Vere THE VIRGIN MARTYR. [By Thomas Dekker and Philip Massinger.] *Cast not known*.

- COMMENT. The King's Company. An edition appearing in 1661 lists no cast, no prologue, no epilogue. Pepys, *Diary*: To the Theatre, where I saw "The Virgin Martyr," a good but too sober a play for the company. Saturday 16
Vere
- THE CHANGELING. [By Thomas Middleton and William Rowley.] Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, pp. 18-19): Deflores – Betterton; Changeling – Sheppy. Saturday 23
Salisbury
- COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The British Museum copy of the 1653 copy of this play has, in an old hand: Deflores by Betterton. Pepys, *Diary*: Then by water to Whitefriars to the Play-house, and there saw "The Changeling," the first time it hath been acted these twenty years, and it takes exceedingly. Besides, I see the gallants do begin to be tyred with the vanity and pride of the theatre actors who are indeed grown very proud and rich.
- COMMENT. The Countess of Derby to the Duchess de la Trèmoille, 25 Feb. 1660/1: Plays are often acted at Court, and the King and their Royal Highnesses have been present at two this evening, at the Duchess of Buckingham's (Madame Guizot de Witt, *The Lady of Latham* [London, 1869], p. 268). Monday 25
At Court
- COMMENT. Edward Gower to Sir R. Leveson, 26 Feb. 1660/1: No more plays at Court after this night, and but three days this week at the playhouse (HMC, 5th Report, 1876, p. 202). Boswell (*Restoration Court Stage*, p. 279) accepts this as evidence that a play was acted at Court on this night. As this was Shrove Tuesday, Gower's statement may well reflect the restrictions upon plays during Lent. Tuesday 26
At Court

Wednesday 27

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 1661

- THE BONDMAN. [By Philip Massinger.] Pepys: Bondman – Betterton. Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 19): Asotus – Sheppy. Friday 1
Salisbury
- COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys: I to Whitefryars, and saw "The Bondman" acted; an excellent play and well done. But above all that ever I saw, Betterton do the Bondman the best.
- COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: I went to the Theatre, where I found so few people (which is strange, and the reason I did not know) that I went out again. Saturday 2
Vere
- THE QUEEN'S MASK. [*Love's Mistress*, by Thomas Heywood.] *Cast not known.* Salisbury
- COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: And so to Salisbury Court, where the house as full as could be; and it seems it was a new play, "The Queen's Maske," wherein there are some good humours: among others, a good jeer to the old story of the Siege of Troy, making it to be a common country tale. But above all it was strange to see so little a boy as that was to act Cupid, which is one of the greatest parts in it.
- LOVE'S MISTRESS. [*The Queen's Mask*, by Thomas Heywood.] *Cast not known.* Monday 11
Vere
- COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: After dinner I went to the theatre, and there saw "Love's Mistress" done by them, which I do not like it some things so well as their acting in Salisbury Court. [Although Pepys saw this play on 2 March 1660/1 at Salisbury Court, done by the Duke's Company, here he appears to indicate a rival performance of it by the King's Company in Vere St.]