

- Monday 29*
Vere shall ever again, for it is the most insipid ridiculous play that ever I saw in my life. I saw, I confess, some good dancing and some handsome women, which was all my pleasure.
- Tuesday 30*
LIF THE DUCHESS OF MALFY. [By John Webster.] Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 25): Duke Ferdinand – Harris; Bosola – Betterton; Antonio – Smith; Cardinal – Young; Dutchess of Malfey – Mrs Betterton [Mrs Saunderson]; Julia – Mrs Gibbs. The edition of 1678 lists other performers who could have acted on this occasion: Delio – Midburn [Medbourne]; Castruchio – Richards; Sylvio – Cademan; Pescara – Norris; Molateste – Price; Cariolo – Mrs Norris.
- COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Downes (p. 25) states that it was acted eight days successively, but as Pepys does not indicate whether he saw its first performance, the sequence of playing it is not known. Pepys, *Diary*: We [Mrs Pepys and Pepys] took coach and to the Duke's playhouse, where we saw "The Duchess of Malfy" well performed, but Betterton and Ianthe [Mrs Saunderson] to admiration. Downes (p. 25): This Play was so exceeding Excellently Acted in all Parts; chiefly, Duke Ferdinand and Bosola: It fill'd the House 8 Days Successively, it proving one of the Best of Stock Tragedies.

October 1662

- Thursday 2*
At Court THE CARDINAL. [By James Shirley.] *Cast not known.*
- COMMENT. Boswell, (*Restoration Court Stage*, p. 280) lists this as by the King's Company, which had given it on 23 July 1662. Pepys, *Diary*: Hearing that there was a play at the Cockpit (and my Lord Sandwich, who came to town last night, at it), I do go thither, and by very great fortune did follow four or five gentlemen who were carried to a little private door in a wall, and so crept through a narrow place and come into one of the boxes next the King's, but so as I could not see the King or Queene, but many of the fine ladies, who yet are really not so handsome generally as I used to take them to be, but that they are finely dressed. Here we saw "The Cardinal," a tragedy I had never seen before, nor is there any great matter in it. The company that came in with me into the box, were all Frenchmen that could speak no English, but Lord! what sport they made to ask a pretty lady that they got among them that understood both French and English to make her tell them what the actors said.
- Wednesday 8*
At Court PUPPETS.
- COMMENT. See Boswell, *Restoration Court Theatre*, pp. 56–57, for a stage which may have been used for the puppets, and also Speaight, *English Puppet Theatre*, p. 73. Pepys, *Diary*: To my Lord's again, thinking to speak with him, but he is at White Hall with the King, before whom the puppet plays I saw this summer at Covent-garden are acted this night.
- Thursday 16*
At Court VOLPONE. [By Ben Jonson.] *Cast not known.*
- COMMENT. This play was probably given by the King's Company, which presented it a number of times later. See Noyes, *Ben Jonson*, pp. 42–43. Evelyn, *Diary*: I saw *Vulpone* acted at Court before their Majesties &c.
- Saturday 18*
LIF THE VILLAIN. [By Thomas Porter.] Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 23): Monsieur Brisac – Betterton; Monsieur Beaupré – Harris; Governour – Lilliston; Bontefeu – Young; Maligni – Saunford; Coligni – Price; Belmont – Mrs Betterton [Mrs Saunderson]. Prologue.