

November 1662

- Saturday 1*
IT COMMENT. A play, unidentified, was given by the Duke's Company at this time. The customary fee of £20 was paid. See *A Calendar of the Inner Temple Records*, ed. Inderwick, III, II.
- MT COMMENT. A play, unidentified, was given at the Middle Temple. Since the Duke's Company acted at the Inner Temple, the King's probably played here. The company received the usual fee of £20. See *A Calendar of the Middle Temple Records*, ed. Hopwood, p. 170.
- At Court IGNORAMUS; or, *The Academical Lawyer*. [By Ferdinando Parkhurst.] MS in Library of Duke of Westminster: Theodorus - Lillist[on]; Antonius - Smyth; Ignoramus - Underhill; Dulman - Williams; Pecus - Will [Peer (?)]; Musaeus - R. Nokes; Torcal - Norris; Rosabella - [Mrs] Jennings; Surda - Mrs Margaret [Rutter (?)]; Trico - Medb[ourne]; Banacar - Crosby; Cupes - Sandford; Polla - Mrs Norris; Cola - R. [James (?)] Nokes; Pyropus - Angell; Dorothea - Mrs Brown; Vince - Boy; Nell - Pegg; Richard[us] - Revet. Prologue to the King, spoken by Alexander Read. Translated from George Ruggle's *Ignoramus*.
COMMENT. See HMC, Report III, Appendix, p. 215a; Hotson, pp. 214-15; B. M. Wagner, "John Rhodes and *Ignoramus*," *Review of English Studies*, v (1929), 43-48. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, pp. 302n, 423. This appears to be the Duke's Company.
- Monday 10*
CC PUPPETS. Pepys, *Diary*: And taking my wife up, carried her to Charing Cross, and there showed her the Italian motion, much after the nature of what I showed her a while since in Covent Garden. Their puppets here are somewhat better, but their motions not at all.
- [AtCourt(?)] AN UNIDENTIFIED PLAY. Pepys, *Diary*: Having sent for Mr Creed, had thought to have shown my wife a play before the King, but it is so late that we could not.
- Monday 17*
At Court THE SCORNFUL LADY. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.] *Cast not known*.
COMMENT. This was probably acted by the King's Company, which acted the play several times in 1660-61. Pepys, *Diary*: At White Hall by appointment, Mr Creed carried my wife and I to the Cockpitt, and we had excellent places, and saw the King, Queen, Duke of Monmouth, his son, and my Lady Castlemaine, and all the fine ladies; and "The Scornfull Lady," well performed. They had done by eleven o'clock.
- Thursday 20*
At Court THE YOUNG ADMIRAL. [By James Shirley.] *Cast not known*.
COMMENT. See Boswell (*Restoration Court Stage*, p. 280), who identifies the company as the King's. Evelyn, *Diary*: Saw the Young Admiral acted *coram Rege* &c.
- Thursday 27*
At Court THE COMMITTEE. [By Sir Robert Howard.] Teague - Lacy. Prologue. Edition of 1665 has Prologue, but no actors' names, no epilogue.
COMMENT. The King's Company. This is the first known performance of the comedy, but it may not be the premiere. Evelyn, *Diary*: At night saw acted the Committe, a ridiculous play of Sir R: Howards where that Mimic Lacy acted the Irish-footeman to admiration: a very Satyrus or Roscius.

Downes, *Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 16:

*For bis Just Acting, all gave bim due Praise,
His Part in the Cheats, Jony Tbump, Teg and Bayes,
In these Four Excelling; The Court gave bim the Bays.*

Thursday 27
At Court

December 1662

- THE VALIANT CID. [An adaptation from Corneille.] *Cast not known*, but see below. Monday 1
At Court
- COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: I to the Cockpitt, with much crowding and waiting, where I saw "The Valiant Cidd" acted, a play I have read with great delight, but is a most dull thing acted, which I never understood before, there being no pleasure in it, though done by Betterton and by Ianthe [Mrs Saunderson], and another fine wench [Mrs Norton] that is come in the room of Roxalana [Mrs Davenport]; nor did the King or Queen once smile all the whole play, nor any of the company seem to take any pleasure but what was in the greatness and gallantry of the company.
- AN UNIDENTIFIED PLAY. Pepys, *Diary*: I hearing what play it was that is to be acted before the King tonight, I would not stay. Monday 8
At Court
- COMMENT. Sir Samuel Tuke's *The Adventures of Five Hours* was probably intended to have its first performance on this day. The edition of 1663 reads: The Prologue Enters with a Play-Bill in his hands, and Reads, This day being the 15th of December, shall be Acted a New Play, never Plai'd before, call'd The Adventures of Five Hours. [On the other hand, Evelyn, on 23 Dec. 1662, saw a rehearsal of the comedy, and Pepys, 8 Jan. 1662/3, refers to a performance on that day as the first one.] Monday 15
- THE LAW AGAINST LOVERS. [By Sir William Davenant.] *Cast not known*, but see 18 Feb. 1661/2. Wednesday 17
At Court(?)
- COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Evelyn, *Diary*: I saw acted the *Law against Lovers*.
- THE ADVENTURES OF FIVE HOURS. A rehearsal. Tuesday 23
[LIF]
- COMMENT. See also 15 Dec. 1662. Evelyn, *Diary*: I went with Sir S: Tuke to heare the Comedians con, & repeate his new Comedy, the *Adventures of 5 boures*: a play whose plot was taken out of the famous Spanish Poet Calderon.
- THE VILLAIN. [By Thomas Porter.] See 18 Oct. 1662. Friday 26
LIF
- COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: With the greatest reluctancy and dispute (two or three times my reason stopping my sense and I would go back again) within myself, to the Duke's house and saw "The Villaine," which I ought not to do without my wife, but that my time is now out that I did undertake it for. But, Lord! to consider how my natural desire is to pleasure, which God be praised that he has given me the power by my late oaths to curb so well as I have done, and will do again after two or three plays more. Here I was better pleased with the play than I was at first, understanding the design better than I did.