

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.