LIF

COMMENT. This play, which was licensed on 22 April 1664, was a revision of Flecknoe's Lore's Dominion, 1654. There is no indication, other than the date of licensing, which points to a specific time when it was acted. The Duke's Company.

LIF

THE COMICAL REVENGE; or, Love in a Tub. [By Sir George Etherege.] Edition of 1664: The Prologue. The Epilogue Spoke by the Widow [and] Wheadle. No actors' names. Downes (Roscius Anglicanus, pp. 24-25): Lord Beauford - Betterton; Colonel Bruce - Smith; Lovis - Norris; Sir Nicholas Cully - Nokes; Palmer - Underhill; Wheadle - Saunford; Graciana - Mrs Betterton; Aurelia - Mrs Davies; Widow - Mrs Long; Sir Frederick Frollick - Harris; Dufoy - Price.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of the first performance is not known. As Evelyn saw it on 27 April, it seems likely that it was first performed before Easter (April 10). It was not licensed for printing until 8 July 1664. Preface to edition of 1664: I Cou'd not have wish'd my self more fortunate than I have been in the success of this Poem: . . . The Acting of it has lost me no Reputation.

Downes, Roscius Anglicanus, p. 25:

Sir Nich'las, Sir Fred'rick, Widow and Dufoy, Were not by any so well done, Mafoy.

The clean and well performance of this Comedy, got the Company more Reputation and profit than any preceding Comedy; the Company taking in a Months time at it 10001.

Thursday 3

COMMENT. Pepys, Diary: So my wife and I out of doors thinking to have gone to have seen a play, but when we came to take coach, they tell us there are none this week, being the first of Lent. But, Lord! to see how impatient I found myself within to see a play, being at liberty once a month to see one. [This is a puzzling statement. Ash Wednesday fell on 24 Feb. 1663/4, and the customary practice seems to have been not to act on Fridays in Lent (a custom not universally followed), sometimes not to act on Wednesdays, and, of course, not to act at all in Passion Week.]

Monday 7 LIF THE UNFORTUNATE LOVERS. [By Sir William Davenant.] Probably Friskin was acted by Angel (see below).

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: My wife and I by coach to the Duke's house, where we saw "The Unfortunate Lovers"; but I know not whether I am grown more curious than I was or no, but I was not much pleased with it, though I know not where to lay the fault, unless it was that the house was very empty, by reason of a new play at the other house. Yet here was my Lady Castlemaine in a box.

In An Elegy on the Death of Edward Angel, 1673, two lines suggest that Angel acted Friskin:

Adieu, dear Friskin: Unfort'nate Lovers weep, Your mirth is fled, and now i' th' Grave must sleep.

Bridges

COMMENT. Pepys, 7 March, refers to a new play at the King's Theatre. Possibly it was Thomas Porter's *The Carnival*, published in 1664, with no actors' names, no prologue, no epilogue, and announced in *The Intelligencer*, 2 May 1664.

Tuesday 8
[LIF]

HERACLIUS. Author not known, but see below. An adaptation of Corneille. Epilogue by Moll Davies. Cast not known.

COMMENT. This play was presumably acted by the Duke's Company. In the preface to Heraclius, Emperour of the East, published in 1664, the author, Lodowick Carlell, complains that he had submitted his translation of Corneille, only to have it returned the very day that this version appeared on the stage. See also the letter by Katherine Philips, under Pompey the Great, Jan. 1663/4.



Pepys, Diary: We made no long stay at dinner; for "Heraclius" being acted, which my wife and I have a mighty mind to see, we do resolve, though not exactly agreeing with the letter of my vowe, yet altogether with the sense, to see another this month, by coming hither instead of that at Court, there having been none conveniently since I made my vowe for us to see there, nor like to be this Lent, and besides we did walk home on purpose to make this going as cheap as that would have been, to have seen one at Court, and my conscience knows that it is only the saving of money and the time also that I intend by my oaths. . . . The play hath one very good passage well managed in it, about two persons pretending, and yet denying themselves, to be son to the tyrant Phocas, and yet heire of Mauricius to the crowne. The garments like Romans very well. The little girle is come to act very prettily, and spoke the epilogue most admirably. But at the beginning, at the drawing up of the curtaine, there was the finest scene of the Emperor and his people about him, standing in their fixed and different postures in their Roman habitts, above all that ever I yet saw at any of the theatres.

Tuesday 8

April 1664

PANDORA. [By Sir William Killigrew.] Edition of 1664: Prologue. Epilogue. LIF No actors' names.

COMMENT. The play was licensed 4 May 1664, entered in the Stationers' Register 21 May 1664, and announced in The Intelligencer 23 May 1664. It appeared in Three Plays, 1665.

Monday 4-Saturday 9 PASSION WEEK

THE GERMAN PRINCESS. [By John Holden (?).] Princess – [Mary Carleton]. COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This play apparently was not printed. Pepys, Diary: And then with my wife by coach to the Duke's house, and there saw "The German Princess" acted, by the woman herself; but never was any thing so well done in earnest, worse performed in jest upon the stage; and indeed the whole play, abating the drollery of him that acts her husband, is very simple, unless here and there a witty sprinkle or two.

Friday 15

COMMENT. Pepys, Diary: Thence to Islington, and so to St John's to the Red Bull, and there saw the latter part of a rude prize fought.

Monday 25 Red Bull

LOVE IN A TUB. [The Comical Revenge, by Sir George Etherege.] See March 1663/4.

Wednesday 27

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Evelyn, Diary: Saw a facecious Comedy Cald Love in a Tub.

May 1664

THE LABYRINTH. Author not known. Cast not known.

Monday 2 Bridges

comment. This play, possibly an adaptation from Corneille, was apparently not printed. It bears, however, some resemblances to Walter Hawkesworth's Latin comedy, *Labyrintbus* (which was first acted at Trinity College, Cambridge, in March 1602/3); and this Restoration play may be a variation on Hawkesworth's.

