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, Tour 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.

