Saturday 13 LIF The play also appears in Herbert, *Dramatic Records*, p. 138. If Pepys saw the premiere, the play was possibly given on 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 Aug.

Pepys, *Diary*: Mr Creed dining with me I got him to give my wife and me a play this afternoon, lending him money to do it, which is a fallacy that I have found now once, to avoyde my vowe with, but never to be more practised I swear, and to the new play, at the Duke's house, of "Henry the Fifth"; a most noble play, writ by my Lord Orrery; wherein Betterton, Harris, and Ianthe's parts are most incomparably wrote and done, and the whole play the most full of height and raptures of wit and sense, that ever I heard; having but one incongruity, or what did not please me in it, that is, that King Harry promises to plead for Tudor to their Mistresse, Princesse Katherine of France, more than when it comes to it he seems to do; and Tudor refused by her with some kind of indignity, not with a difficulty and honour that it ought to have been done in to him.

Downes, Roscius Anglicanus, pp. 27–28: This Play was Splendidly Cloath'd: The King, in the Duke of York's Coronation Suit; Owen Tudor, in King Charle's: Duke of Burgundy, in the Lord of Oxford's, and the rest all New. It was Excellently Perform'd, and Acted 10 Days Successively.

Wednesday 17 COMMENT. For a discussion of Henry V, whose run may still have been in progress, LIF see Pepys, Diary, 17 Aug.

Tbursday 18 [Bridges]

y 18 THE COURT SECRET. [By James Shirley.] Cast not known.

COMMENT. The King's Company, presumably. For a version of this play, see R. G. Howarth, "A Manuscript of James Shirley's Court Secret," Review of English Studies, VII (1931), 302-13. The manuscript is in the Worcester College Library (Plays 9. 21). Pepys, Diary: My wife going to-day to dine with Mrs Pierce, and thence with her and Mrs Clerke to see a new play, "The Court Secret." [The play had not been acted before the Restoration.]

September 1664

- Friday 2 ENTERTAINMENTS. Pepys, Diary: I got her [Mrs Pepys] to rise and abroad BF with me by coach to Bartholomew Fayre, and our boy with us, and there shewed them and myself the dancing on the ropes, and several other the best shows.
- Wednesday 7ENTERTAINMENTS. Pepys, Diary: So anon abroad with Creed walked toBFBartholomew Fayre, this being the last day, and there saw the best dancing
on the ropes that I think I ever saw in my life, and so all say.

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