

COMMENT. Killigrew contemplated a revival of *Cicilia and Clarinda* in 1667, a memorandum of 14 Feb. 1666/7 ordering the parts to be written out. See William Van Lennep, "Thomas Killigrew Prepares his Plays," p. 805. Thursday 14
Bridges

COMMENT. For a concert of Italian music and a discussion of music at Lord Bruncker's, see Pepys, *Diary*, 16 Feb. Saturday 16

THE MAID'S TRAGEDY. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.] *Cast not known*, but see 7 Dec. 1666. Monday 18
Bridges

COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: With my wife by coach to the Duke of York's play-house, expecting a new play, and so stayed not no more than other people, but to the King's house, to "The Mayd's Tragedy"; but vexed all the while with two talking ladies and Sir Charles Sedley; yet pleased to hear their discourse, he being a stranger. And one of the ladies would, and did sit with her mask on, all the play, and, being exceeding witty as ever I heard woman, did talk most pleasantly with him; but was, I believe, a virtuous woman, and of quality. He would fain know who she was, but she would not tell. . . . By that means lost the pleasure of the play wholly, to which now and then Sir Charles Sedley's exceptions against both words and pronouncing were very pretty.

Wednesday 20

ASH WEDNESDAY

COMMENT. John Dryden's *Secret Love; or, The Maiden Queen* probably had its premiere in late February. When Pepys saw it on 2 March 1666/7, it had been given previously. The edition of 1668 lists: Queen of Sicily – Mrs [Rebecca] Marshall; Candiope – Mrs Quin [Anne Marshall Quin]; Asteria – Mrs Knep; Florimel – Mrs Ellen Guyn; Flavia – Mrs Frances Davenport; Olinda – Mrs Rutter; Sabina – Mrs Eliz. Davenport; Melissa – Mrs Cory; Lysimantes – Burt; Philocles – Mohun; Celadon – Hart. Prologue. Second Prologue. Epilogue Written by a Person of Quality. Mrs Knep sang a song in Act iv. Preface: In the reading of which, I fear, you will not meet with that satisfaction which you have had in seeing it on the Stage, the chief parts of it both serious and comick, being performed to that height of excellence. Late February
Bridges

COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: [Mrs Knepp] tells me Harris is well again, having been very ill. Wednesday 27
LIF

March 1667

COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: And had she [Mrs Pepys] not been ill . . . and that it were not Friday (on which in Lent there are no plays) I had carried her to a play. Friday 1

SECRET LOVE; or, The Maiden Queen. [By John Dryden.] Florimell – Nell Gwin. But see also Late-February 1666/7. Saturday 2
Bridges

COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: After dinner, with my wife, to the King's house to see "The Mayden Queene," a new play of Dryden's, mightily commended for the regularity of it, and the strain and wit; and, the truth is, there is a comical part done by Nell, which is Florimell, that I never can hope ever to see the like done again, by man or woman. The King and Duke of York were at the play. But so great performance of a comical part was never, I believe, in the world before as Nell do this, both as a mad girle, then most and

- Saturday 2**
Bridges best of all when she comes in like a young gallant; and hath the motions and carriage of a spark the most that ever I saw any man have. It makes me, I confess, admire her.
- Monday 4**
Bridges SECRET LOVE; or, The Maiden Queen. See 2 March.
COMMENT. Certain performances on 2 and 5 March make it likely that the play was also given on this day.
- Tuesday 5**
Bridges SECRET LOVE; or, The Maiden Queen. See 2 March.
COMMENT. This performance is on the two L. C. lists, 5/139, p. 129, and 5/12, p. 17. The second list states that the King attended the play. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 343. The play may have continued its run on 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, and 13 March, as it was certainly given on 14 March.
- Thursday 7**
LIF THE ENGLISH PRINCESS; or, The Death of Richard the Third. [By John Caryll.] The edition of 1667 lists no actors' names, but Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 27) lists: King Richard – Betterton; Duke of Richmond – Harris; Sir William Stanly – Smith. Prologue. Edition of 1673: Epilogue.
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. L. C. 5/139, p. 125, lists it for 3 March, but as this date falls on Sunday, it is probably an error in dating. The play was licensed on 22 May 1667.
Pepys, *Diary*: To the Duke's playhouse . . . and I in and find my wife and Mrs Hewer, and sat by them and saw "The English Princesse, or Richard the Third"; a most sad, melancholy play, and pretty good; but nothing eminent in it, as some tragedys are; only little Mis. Davis did dance a jig after the end of the play, and there telling the next day's play; so that it come in by force only to please the company to see her dance in boy's clothes; and, the truth is, there is no comparison between Nell's dancing the other day at the King's house in boy's clothes and this, this being infinitely beyond the other.
Downes (p. 27): Wrote by Mr Carrol, was Excellently well Acted in every Part; . . . Gain'd them an Additional Estimation, and the Applause from the Town, as well as profit to the whole Company.
- Thursday 14**
Bridges THE VIRGIN QUEEN. [*Secret Love; or, The Maiden Queen.*] See 2 March.
COMMENT. The King's Company. Evelyn, *Diary*: Saw the *Virgin Queene* a play written by Mr Dryden &c. [Possibly the run of this play continued, for Pepys saw it again on 25 March and there are no certain performances of other plays at the King's Theatre. If *Secret Love* was acted without interruption, except for the customary non-acting days in Lent, it was probably given on 16, 18, 19, 21, and 23 March.]
- Wednesday 20**
LIF THE WEDDING NIGHT. [*The Marriage Night*, by Henry Cary, Lord Falkland.]
By young actors of the company.
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. For details of the acting by young members of the company, see 21 March.
- CC PUPPETRY.
COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: And took up my wife, and to Polichinelli at Charing Crosse, which is prettier and prettier, and so full of variety that it is extraordinary good entertainment. (See also George Speaight, *The History of the English Puppet Theatre* [London, 1955], p. 75.)
- Thursday 21**
LIF THE MARRIAGE NIGHT. See 20 March.
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: I alone out and to the Duke of York's play-house, where unexpectedly I come to see only the young men and women of the house act; they having liberty to act for their own profit on Wednes-