

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