

FEIGN'D INNOCENCE; or, Sir Martin Marall. [By John Dryden.] Edition of Thursday 15  
1668: No actors' names. Prologue. Epilogue. Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 28): LIF  
Sir Martin Marall – Nokes; Sir John Swallow – Smith; Lord Dartmouth – Young;  
Old Moody – Underhill; Warner – Harris; Lady Dupe – Mrs Norris; Mrs Milli-  
sent – Mrs Davies.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. It is not certain that this is the first performance, but it may well have been. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/139, p. 125. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 346.

Pepys, *Diary*: Sir W. Pen and I to the Duke's house, where a new play. The King and Court there: the house full, and an act begun. And so went to the King's.

Downes (p. 28): Sir Martin Marral, The Duke of New-Castle, giving Mr Dryden a bare Translation of it, out of a Comedy of the Famous French Poet Monseur Moleire: He Adapted the Part purposely for the Mouth of Mr Nokes, and curiously Polishing the whole. . . . All the Parts being very Just and Exactly perform'd, 'specially Sir Martin and his Man, Mr Smith, and several others since have come very near him, but none Equall'd, nor yet Mr Nokes in Sir Martin: This Comedy was Crown'd with an Excellent Entry: In the last Act at the Mask, by Mr Priest and Madam Davies; This, and Love in a Tub, got the Company more Money than any preceding Comedy.

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR. [By William Shakespeare.] *Cast not* Bridges  
*known*, but see 9 Nov. 1660.

COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: [After going to LIF] went to the King's, and there saw "The Merry Wives of Windsor": which did not please me at all, in no part of it.

FEIGN'D INNOCENCE; or, Sir Martin Marall. See 15 Aug. Friday 16  
LIF

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: After dinner my wife and I to the Duke's playhouse, where we saw the new play acted yesterday, "The Feign Innocence, or Sir Martin Marr-all"; a play made by my Lord Duke of Newcastle, but, as every body says, corrected by Dryden. It is the most entire piece of mirth, a complete farce from one end to the other, that certainly was ever writ. I never laughed so in all my life. I laughed till my head [ached] all the evening and night with the laughing; and at very good wit therein, not fooling. The house full, and in all things of mighty content to me.

[FEIGNED INNOCENCE; or, Sir Martin Marall.] See 15 Aug. Saturday 17  
LIF

COMMENT. The sequence of known performances of this play—15, 16, 19, 20, and 21 Aug.—suggests that its run was continuous and that it was probably given also on this day, yet Pepys, 20 Aug., states that that day was the fourth performance.

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S TROUBLES, AND THE HISTORY OF EIGHTY EIGHT. [By Thomas Heywood.] *Cast not known*. Bridges

COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: My wife and I and Sir W. Pen to the King's playhouse, where the house extraordinary full; and there was the King and Duke of York to see the new play, "Queen Elizabeth's Troubles, and the History of Eighty Eight." I confess I have sucked in so much of the sad story of Queen Elizabeth, from my cradle, that I was ready to weep for her sometimes; but the play is the most ridiculous that sure ever come upon the stage; and, indeed, is merely a shew, only shews the true garbe of the Queen in those days, just as we see Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth painted; but the play is merely a puppet play, acted by living puppets. Neither the design nor language better; and one stands by and tells us the meaning of things: only I was pleased to see Knipp dance among the milkmaids, and to hear her sing a song to Queen Elizabeth; and

- Saturday 17*  
Bridges to see her come out in her night-gowne with no lockes on, but her bare face and hair only tied up in a knot behind; which is the comeliest dress that ever I saw her in to her advantage.
- Monday 19*  
LIF FEIGN'D INNOCENCE; or, Sir Martin Marall. See 15 Aug.  
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: To the Duke of York's house, all alone, and there saw "Sir Martin Marr-all" again, though I saw him but two days since, and do find it the most comical play that ever I saw in my life.
- Tuesday 20*  
LIF FEIGN'D INNOCENCE; or, Sir Martin Marall. See 15 Aug.  
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: With my Lord Bruncker to the Duke's Playhouse (telling my wife so at the 'Change, where I left her), and there saw "Sir Martin Marr-all" again, which I have now seen three times, and it hath been acted but four times, and still find it a very ingenious play, and full of variety.
- Wednesday 21*  
LIF FEIGN'D INNOCENCE; or, Sir Martin Marall. See 15 Aug.  
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. It is quite likely that the run of this play extended for some time later in August. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/139, p. 125. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 346.
- [CC] PUPPETRY.  
COMMENT. Evelyn, *Diary*: Saw the famous Italian puppet play, for 'twas no other.
- Thursday 22*  
Bridges THE INDIAN EMPEROR. [By John Dryden.] [Cydaria] – Nell Gwyn; probably Alibech – Mrs Knepp [as 15 Jan. 1666/7].  
COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: With my Lord Bruncker and his mistress to the King's playhouse, and there saw "The Indian Emperour"; where I find Nell come again, which I am glad of; but was most infinitely displeas'd with her being put to act the Emperour's daughter, which is a great and serious part, which she do most basely. The rest of the play, though pretty good, was not well acted by most of them, methought; so that I took no great content in it. But that, that troubled me most was, that Knipp sent by Moll [Mary Meggs] to desire to speak to me after the play; and she beckoned to me at the end of the play, and I promised to come; but it was so late.
- Friday 23*  
Bridges SECRET LOVE; or, The Maiden Queen. [By John Dryden.] See 24 May 1667.  
COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: To the King's house, and saw "The Mayden Queene," which pleases us mightily.
- Saturday 24*  
Bridges THE CARDINAL. [By James Shirley.] [. . .] – Rebecca Marshall.  
COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: Saw "The Cardinal" at the King's house, wherewith I am mightily pleased; but, above all, with Becke Marshall. But it is pretty to observe how I look up and down for, and did spy Knipp; but durst not own it to my wife that I see her . . . and my belly now full with plays, that I do intend to bind myself to see no more till Michaelmas.
- Monday 26*  
Bridges THE SURPRISAL. [By Sir Robert Howard.] See 8 April 1667.  
COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: I walked to the King's playhouse, there to meet Sir W. Pen, and saw "The Surprizall," a very mean play, I thought; or else it was because I was out of humour, and but very little company in the house. But there Sir W. Pen and I had a good deal of discourse with Moll [Meggs (?)]; who tells us that Nell [Gwyn] is already left by my Lord Buckhurst,