

- Wednesday 3*
LIF Pepys, *Diary*: To the Duke of York's playhouse, and there saw an old play, the first time acted these forty years, called "The Lady's Tryall," acted only by the young people of the house; but the house very full. But it is but a sorry play, and the worse by how much my head is out of humour by being a little sleepy and my legs weary since last night.
- Thursday 4*
Bridges COMMENT. See 27 Feb. 1668/9. Pepys, *Diary*: I did meet Sir Jeremy Smith, who did tell me that Sir W. Coventry was just now sent to the Tower, about the business of his challenging the Duke of Buckingham, and so was also Harry Saville to the Gate-house. . . . So, meeting with my Lord Bellassis, he told me the particulars of this matter; that it arises about a quarrel which Sir W. Coventry had with the Duke of Buckingham about a design between the Duke and Sir Robert Howard, to bring him into a play [*The Rehearsal*] at the King's house, which W. Coventry not enduring, did by H. Saville send a letter to the Duke of Buckingham, that he had a desire to speak with him. Upon which, the Duke of Buckingham did bid Holmes, his champion ever since my Lord Shrewsbury's business, go to him to know the business; but H. Saville would not tell it to any but himself, and therefore did go presently to the Duke of Buckingham, and told him that his uncle Coventry was a person of honour, and was sensible of his Grace's liberty taken of abusing him, and that he had a desire of satisfaction, and would fight with him. But that here they were interrupted by my Lord Chamberlain's coming in, who was commanded to go to bid the Duke of Buckingham to come to the King, Holmes having discovered it.
- LIF [THE ROYAL SHEPHERDESS.] See 25 Feb. 1668/9.
- Saturday 6*
Bridges COMMENT. See 27 Feb. 1668/9 and 4 March 1668/9. Pepys, *Diary*: [Sir W. Coventry] told me the matter of the play [*The Rehearsal*] that was intended for his abuse, wherein they foolishly and sillily bring in two tables like that which he hath made, with a round hole in the middle, in his closet, to turn himself in; and he is to be in one of them as master, and Sir J. Duncomb in the other, as his man or imitator: and their discourse in those tables, about the disposing of their books and papers, very foolish. But that, that he is offended with, is his being made so contemptible, as that any should dare to make a gentleman a subject for the mirth of the world; and that therefore he had told Tom Killigrew that he should tell his actors, whoever they were, that did offer any thing like representing him, that he would not complain to my Lord Chamberlain, which was too weak, nor get him beaten, as Sir Charles Sidly is said to do, but that he would cause his nose to be cut.
- Monday 8*
Bridges AN EVENING'S LOVE; or, The Mock Astrologer. [By John Dryden.] *Cast not known*. For an earlier cast, see 12 June 1668.
 COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: To the King's playhouse, and there saw "The Mocke Astrologer," which I have often seen, and but an ordinary play.
- Tuesday 9*
Bridges CLARICILLA. [By Thomas Killigrew.] *Cast not known*.
 COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: My wife and I towards the King's playhouse, and by the way found Betty [Turner], and Bab. and Betty Pepys staying for us; and so took them all to see "Claricilla," which do not please me almost at all, though there are some good things in it.
- Wednesday 17*
Bridges THE COXCOMB. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.] *Cast not known*.
 Prologue spoken by Jo. Haines.
 COMMENT. The King's Company. See 3 March 1668/9 for another play acted on a Wednesday in Lent by the young players. Langbaine, (*English Dramatick Poets*, p. 208): Coxcomb, a Comedy, which was reviv'd at the Theatre-Royal, the Prologue being spoken by Jo. Haines.

- Pepys, *Diary*: To the King's playhouse, and there saw "The Coxcomb," the first time acted, but an old play, and a silly one, being acted only by the young people. Wednesday 17
Bridges
- THE COXCOMB. See 17 March 1668/9. Tuesday 23
Bridges
COMMENT. The King's Company. This play is on the L. C. list, 5/12, p. 17: y^e King here. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 344.
- THE COMICAL REVENGE; or, Love in a Tub. [By Sir George Etherege.] *Cast not known*. For a previous cast, see March 1663/4. Tuesday 30
LIF
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This play is on the L. C. list at Harvard. See Van Lennep, "Plays on the English Stage," p. 14.

April 1669

Monday 5-Saturday 10

PASSION WEEK

- THE SULLEN LOVERS; or, The Impertinents. [By Thomas Shadwell.] *Cast not known*. For a previous cast, see 2 May 1668. Wednesday 14
LIF
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: To the Duke of York's playhouse, and there saw "The Impertinents," a play which pleases me well still; but it is with great trouble that I now see a play, because of my eyes, the light of the candles making it very troublesome to me.
- GUZMAN. [By Roger Boyle, Earl of Orrery.] Downes (*Roscicus Anglicanus*) gives no cast; and the first publication of the play, in 1693, lists no actors' names. Thursday 15
LIF
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance, apparently the premiere, is on the L. C. list at Harvard. See Van Lennep, "Plays on the English Stage," p. 14. Downes (p. 28): After this my Lord Orrery, Writ Two Comedies: The first call'd Guzman . . . took very well.
- COMMENT. *The Travels of Cosmo the Third* (Thursday 25 April 1669 NS; Thursday 15 April OS): After dinner, he recommenced his visits to the ladies; going towards evening to the King's Theatre, to hear the comedy, in his majesty's box. This theatre is nearly of a circular form, surrounded, in the inside, by boxes separated from each other, and divided into several rows of seats, for the greater accommodation of the ladies and gentlemen, who, in conformity with the freedom of the country, sit together indiscriminately; a large space being left on the ground-floor for the rest of the audience. The scenery is very light, capable of a great many changes, and embellished with beautiful landscapes. Before the comedy begins, that the audience may not be tired with waiting, the most delightful symphonies are played; on which account many persons come early to enjoy this agreeable amusement. The comedies which are acted, are in prose; but their plots are confused, neither unity nor regularity being observed; the authors having in view, rather than any thing else, to describe accurately the passions of the mind, the virtues and the vices; and they succeed the better, the more the players themselves, who are excellent, assist them with action, and with the enunciation of their language, which is very well adapted for the purpose, as being a variation, but very much confined and curtailed, of the Teutonic idiom; and enriched with many phrases and words of the most beautiful and expressive description, taken both from ancient and modern languages (London, 1821, pp. 190-91). Bridges