

THE SILENT WOMAN. [By Ben Jonson.] Possibly Mountfort acts Jack Daw. *Thursday 15*
 COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, [DL or DG]
 5/147, p. 68: The King & Queene at the Silent Weoman. See also Nicoll, *Restoration*
Drama, p. 350. Matthew Prior, *Satire Upon the Poets*:

Mountfort how fit for Politicks and Law
That play'd so well Sir Courtly and Jack Daw.

ROLLO. [*The Bloody Brother*, by John Fletcher.] Edition of 1686 (licensed 27 Nov. *Tuesday 20*
 1685): Rollo – Kynnaston; Otto – Williams; Aubrey – Gillo; Gisbert – Saunders; [DL or DG]
 Baldwin – Cartwright; Grandpree – Baker; Verdon – Lowe; Trevice – Percival;
 Duprete – Harris; Latorch – Griffin; Hamond – Perin; Allan – Baker; Norbret –
 Powel; La Fisk – Bowman; Rufee – Lowe; De Bube – Saunders; Pipeau – Miss
 Cockye, the little Girl; Cook – Underhil; Yeoman of the Seller – Harris; Butler –
 Lowe; Pantler – Powel; Sophia – Mrs Corey; Matilda – Mrs Percival; Edith –
 Mrs Cooke.

COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list,
 5/147, p. 68: The Queene at Rolo. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 350.
 Although it is not certain that the cast in this edition is that for this performance,
 there are no actors' names on the list which can not pertain to this time.

THE ROVER. [By Mrs Aphra Behn.] *Cast not known.* It is not indicated which *Thursday 22*
 Part was acted. [DL or DG]
 COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list,
 5/147, p. 68: The King & Queene. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 350.

THE DISAPPOINTMENT. [By Thomas Southerne.] See April 1684. *Tuesday 27*
 COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, [DL or DG]
 5/147, p. 68: The King & Queene. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 350. See
 also Evelyn's *Diary* for some private concerts at this time.

Friday 30

A FAST DAY FOR THE MARTYRDOM OF CHARLES I

February 1685

COMMENT. On this day Charles II died. Although the order to close the theatres *Friday 6*
 was not issued until 20 Feb. 1684/5 (L. C. 5/145, p. 153), acting probably ceased
 on Thursday 5 Feb. 1684/5. At this time John Crowne's *Sir Courtly Nice* was in
 rehearsal. John Dennis gives a dramatic account of the last day of rehearsing: The
 Play was now just ready to appear to the World; and as every one that had seen
 it rehears'd was highly pleas'd with it; every one who had heard of it was big with
 the Expectation of it; and Mr Crown was delighted with the flattering Hope of
 being made happy for the rest of his Life, by the Performance of the King's Promise;
 when, upon the very last Day of the Rehearsal, he met Cave Underhill coming from
 the Play-House as he himself was going towards it; Upon which the Poet reprim-
 anding the Player for neglecting so considerable a Part as he had in the Comedy,
 and neglecting it on a Day of so much Consequence, as the very last Day of
 Rehearsal: Oh Lord, Sir, says Underhill, we are all undone. Wherefore, says
 Mr Crown, is the Play-House on Fire? The whole Nation, replys the Player, will
 quickly be so, for the King is dead. At the hearing which dismal Words, the Author
 was little better; for he who but the Moment before was ravish'd with the Thought

Friday 6 of the Pleasure, which he was about to give to his King, and of the Favours which he was afterwards to receive from him, this Moment found, to his unspeakable Sorrow, that his Royal Patron was gone for ever, and with him all his Hopes. The King indeed reviv'd from his Apoplectick Fit, but three Days after dyed, and Mr Crown by his Death was replung'd in the deepest Melancholy (John Dennis, *Original Letters*, 1721, 1, 53-54). [It is not clear whether the last sentence refers to the day on which Crowne had seen the King and had assurances from His Majesty, the King dying three days later, or whether there was a false rumor of the King's death on 3 Feb. 1684/5.]

April 1685

Monday 13-Saturday 18

PASSION WEEK

Monday 27 COMMENT. Luttrell, *A Brief Relation*, 1, 339: The 27th, the playhouse open'd,
[DL or DG] being the first day they acted since his late majesties death.

Tuesday 28 ROLLO. [*The Bloody Brother*, by John Fletcher. *Cast not known*, but see 20 Jan. 1684/5.
[DL or DG] COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 68: The King & Queene & a Box for y^e Maydes of Honor. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 350.

May 1685

Saturday 9 SIR COURTLY NICE; or, It Cannot Be. [By John Crowne.] Edition of 1685:
DL Prologue. Epilogue. No actors' names. Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 40): Sir Courtly - Mountfort; Hothead - Underhill; Testimony - Gillo; Lord Beaugard - Kynaston; Surly - Griffin; Sir Nicholas Callico - Anthony Leigh; Leonora - Mrs Barry.

COMMENT. The United Company. This play was in rehearsal before the death of Charles II—see 6 Feb. 1684/5—and was staged shortly after the playhouse reopened. Luttrell's date of acquisition of the separately-printed Prologue and Epilogue is 9 May 1685 (in possession of Pickering and Chatto, Ltd., 1938), and the play may have been first given on that date or during the week preceding Saturday 9 May 1685. For Cibber's account of Mountfort as Sir Courtly, see *Apology*, ed. Lowe, 1, 129. The separately-printed Prologue and Epilogue are reprinted in Wiley, *Rare Prologues and Epilogues*, pp. 228-30. A separately-printed *Three New Songs in Sir Courtly Nice* (1685) contains three songs, with the music by Samuel Ackroyde and an unknown composer. In addition, two songs, "As I grazed unaware" and "O be kind my dear be kind," both composed by R. King, are in *The Theater of Music*, Second Book, 1685.

Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, pp. 40-41): The first new Comedy after King James came to the Crown, was Sir Courtly Nice, wrote by Mr Crown: . . . The Comedy being justly Acted, and the Characters in't new, Crown'd it with a general Applause: Sir Courtly was so nicely Perform'd, that not any succeeding, but Mr Cyber has Equall'd him. Note, Mr Griffin so Excell'd in Surly, Sir Edward Belfond, The Plain Dealer, none succeeding in the 2 former have Equall'd him, except his Predecessor Mr Hart in the latter.