

- Wednesday 30* THE INDIAN EMPEROUR; or, The Conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards.  
DL [By John Dryden.] *Cast not known.*  
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is known from a playbill: At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this present Wensday, being the last day of November, will be presented, a Play called, The Indian Emperour, Or, The Conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards. No money to be return'd after the Curtain is drawn. By their Majesties Servants. Vivant Rex and Regina. [See HMC, 7th Report, Verney Papers, p. 509; and Lawrence, *Elizabethan Playhouse*, 2d Series, opposite page 241.]

## December 1692

- Friday 2* THE RIVAL QUEENS; or, The Death of Alexander the Great. [By Nathaniel  
DL Lee.] Alexander – Mountfort.  
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is known from testimony in the trial of Charles Lord Mohun for the attack on William Mountfort on 9 Dec. 1692. The evidence given by Brereton at the trial stated: I had not seen my Lord Mohun for two or three days before this Fact was committed; . . . but the Friday before, the Play of Alexander the Great was Acted, and my Lord Mohun and I were talking of the Play, and he said it was a good Play, and he commended Mr Mountford's Acting extreamly (*The Tryal of Charles Lord Mohun* [London, 1693], p. 26).
- Friday 9* [THE UNHAPPY FAVOURITE; or, The Earl of Essex. By John Banks. Countess  
DL of Essex – Mrs Bracegirdle.]  
COMMENT. The United Company. On this evening William Mountfort, the actor, was killed by Lord Mohun and Captain Hill, but the name of the play given that night seems not to have been mentioned in the testimony at the trial. In a novel based on the event, *The Player's Tragedy; or, Fatal Love* (1693), Mrs Bracegirdle acted the Wife of Essex in *The Unhappy Favourite*, and the fiction may have been based on fact. Luttrell, *A Brief Relation*, II, 637, 10 Dec. 1692: Last night lord Mohun, captain Hill of collonel Earles regiment, and others, pursued Mountfort the actor from the playhouse to his lodgings in Norfolk Street, where one kist him while Hill run him thro' the belly: they ran away, but his lordship was this morning seized and committed to prison. Mountfort died of his wounds this afternoon. The quarrell was about Bracegirdle the actresse, whom they would have trapan'd away, but Mountfort prevented it, wherefore they murthered him thus. [See also HMC, 14th Report, Appendix, Portland MSS., III, 509; *The Ladies Lamentation for their Adonis*, 1692, a poem on Mountfort's death; *The Player's Tragedy; or, Fatal Love*, 1693, a fictional treatment of the affair; and, particularly, Borgman, *The Life and Death of William Mountfort*, pp. 123-69. See also Cibber, *Apology*, I, 108, for an account of Betterton's taking the role of Alexander after Mountfort's death.]
- Wednesday 21* COMMENT. Luttrell, *A Brief Relation*, II, 647: Anthony Lee, the famous comedian, died on Wednesday last.