

Duke of Monmouth and Lord Arran and Monsieur Blanford, being three of them) At Court
in vizards, but most rich and antique dresses, did dance admirably and most
gloriously. God give us cause to continue the mirth!

Wednesday 8
ASH WEDNESDAY

COMMENT. John Evelyn, writing to Viscount Cornbury this day, protested the Thursday 9
frequency of theatrical performances during the Lenten "Indiction" after hearing
that there was to be "no Lent indicted this year." He wondered if Fridays and
Saturdays could not be spared from the licentiousness of plays. (See *Diary and
Correspondence*, ed. Bray III, 150-52.)

March 1665

LOVE'S PILGRIMAGE. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.] By the MTS
Scholars of the Merchant Taylors' School.

COMMENT. H. B. Wilson, *The History of the Merchant-Taylors' School* (London, 1814), I, 344n: 15 March 1664/5. There was this day presented to the court, the bill of charges in erecting the Stage and Seates and other necessaries in the hall, when the Schollers of the companies schoole, at St Laurence Pouncntneys, London, acted the play called Love's Pilgrimage, amounting unto seventeen Poundes, Tenn-shillings, and nine-pence.

Monday 20-Saturday 25
PASSION WEEK

April 1665

THE INDIAN EMPEROUR; or, The Conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards. [By Bridges
John Dryden.] Downes (*Roscious Anglicanus*, p. 9): Emperour – Major Mohun;
Odmarr – Winterset; Guymor – Kynaston; Priest – Cartwright; Cortez – Hart;
Vasquez – Burt; Cidaria – Mrs Ellen Gwin [but she probably was not in the original
cast]; Almeria – Mrs [Anne] Marshall. Pepys (15 Jan. 1667): Alibech – Mrs Weaver.
Prologue. Epilogue.

COMMENT. The play was entered in the *Stationers' Register* on 26 May 1665.
In addition, the Prologue alludes to *The Indian Queen* (25 Jan. 1663/4):

*The Scenes are old, the Habits are the same,
We wore last year, before the Spaniards came.*

Printed with *The Indian Emperour* was *The Connexion of the Indian Emperour to the
Indian Queen*, which may have been distributed at the theatre, for Bayes, in *The
Rehearsal*, remarks: Besides, Sir, I have printed above a hundred sheets of paper to
insinuate the Plot into the Boxes.

MUSTAPHA, THE SON OF SOLYMAN THE MAGNIFICENT. [By Roger Monday 3
Boyle, Earl of Orrery.] Downes (*Roscious Anglicanus*, pp. 25-26): Solyman –
Betterton; Mustapha – Harris; Zanger – Smith; Rustan – Sandford; Pyrrhus –
Richards; [Cardinal of Veradium] – Young; Haly – Cademan; Roxolana – Mrs
Davenport [presumably an error for Mrs Betterton, who is named for this role in
LIF

Monday 3
LIF the edition of 1668 and who is referred to (Ianthé) by Pepys on this day]; Queen of Hungaria – Mrs Davies. Edition of 1668 adds: Achmat – James Noke; Thuricus – Medborn; Viche – Aingel; Zarma – Mrs Long; Mitza – Mrs Norris; Cleora – Mrs Shadwel.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: With Creed, my wife, and Mercer to a play at the Duke's, of my Lord Orrery's, called "Mustapha," which being not good, made Betterton's part and Ianthe's but ordinary too, so that we were not contented with it at all . . . All the pleasure of the play was, the King and my Lady Castlemayne were there; and pretty witty Nell [Gwin], at the King's house, and the younger [Rebecca] Marshall sat next us; which pleased me mightily.

Downes (p. 26): All the Parts being new Cloath's with new Scenes, Sir William's great Care of having it perfect and exactly perform'd, it produc'd to himself and Company vast Profit.

Tuesday 4
LIF [MUSTAPHA.] See 3 April.

COMMENT. Although 3 April may not be the first performance of this play, the fact that Pepys saw it on 3 April and Evelyn attended it on 6 April suggests that it was given on this day also.

Wednesday 5

A FAST DAY FOR THE DUTCH WAR

Thursday 6
LIF MUSTAPHA. See 3 April.

COMMENT. Evelyn, *Diary*: In the afternoon saw acted *Mustapha* a Tragedy written by the E. of Orary.

Monday 17
LIF THE GHOSTS. [By John Holden.] *Cast not known.*

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This play was apparently not printed. Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 26): Wrote by Mr Holden. Pepys, *Diary*: Being called by my wife, we all to a play, "The Ghosts," at the Duke's house, but a very simple play.

Thursday 20
At Court COMMENT. See Boswell, *Restoration Court Stage*, pp. 22-56. Pepys, *Diary*: This night I am told the first play is played in White Hall noon-hall, which is now turned to a house of playing. I had a great mind, but could not go to see it.

May 1665

Thursday 4 THE WIDOW. *Authorship not certain. Cast not known.*

COMMENT. The theatre or company is not known. W. S. Clark (*Works of Orrery*, I, 40-41) believes that this is Thomas Middleton's play, not one by Orrery. Henry Savile to George Savile: I am come newly from my Lord of Orrery's new play called The Widow, whose character you will receive from better hands. I will only say that one part of it is the humour of a man that has great need to go to the close stool, where there are such indecent postures as would never be suffered upon any stage but ours, which has quite turn'd the stomach of so squeamish a man as I am, that am used to see nothing upon a theatre that might not appear in the ruelle of a fine lady (*Savile Correspondence*, ed. W. D. Cooper, Camden Society, LXXI [1858], 4).

Monday 15
Bridges LOVE'S MISTRESS; or, The Queen's Mask. [By Thomas Heywood.] *Cast not known.*

COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: To the King's playhouse, all alone, and saw "Love's Maistresse." Some pretty things and good variety in it, but no or little fancy in it.