

THE COMICAL REVENGE; or, Love in a Tub. [By Sir George Etherege.] *Monday 29*
Cast not known, but see March 1663/4. At Court

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: I away before to White Hall and into the new play-house there, the first time I ever was there, and the first play I have seen since before the great plague. By and by Mr Pierce comes, bringing my wife and his, and Knipp. By and by the King and Queene, Duke and Duchesse, and all the great ladies of the Court; which, indeed, was a fine sight. But the play being "Love in a Tub," a silly play, and though done by the Duke's people, yet having neither Betterton nor his wife, and the whole thing done ill, and being ill also, I had no manner of pleasure in the play. Besides, the House, though very fine, yet bad for the voice, for hearing. The sight of the ladies, indeed, was exceeding noble; and above all, my Lady Castlemayne. The play done by ten o'clock. I carried them all home, and then home myself, and well satisfied with the sight, but not the play.

COMMENT. Because of losses incurred in the fire, the Merchant Taylors' Company omitted the pageantry in the swearing in of the Lord Mayor. See R. T. D. Sayle, *The Lord Mayors' Pageants* (1931), p. 131. *City*

November 1666

[MUSTAPHA. By Roger Boyle, Earl of Orrery.] *Cast not known*, but see 3 April *Monday 5*
 1665. At Court

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Boswell (*Restoration Court Stage*, p. 282) thinks that this play given on the L. C. lists—see Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 346—between 29 Oct. and 6 Nov., may have been acted on this day. See also an order for supplies for the comedians acting at Court in Alwin Thaler, *Sbakspear to Sberidan*, p. 290.

Pepys, *Diary*: I to White Hall, where I staid walking up and down till night, and then got almost into the playhouse, having much mind to go and see the play at Court this night; but fearing how I should get home, because of the bonfires and the lateness of the night to get a coach, I did not stay.

COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: [Mrs Knipp] tells me how Smith, of the Duke's house, hath killed a man upon a quarrel in play; which makes every body sorry, he being a good actor, and, they say, a good man, however this happens. The ladies of the Court do much bemoan him, she says. *Wednesday 14*

Tuesday 20
 A FAST DAY

COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: To church, it being thanksgiving-day for the cessation of the plague; but, Lord! how the towne do say that it is hastened before the plague is quite over, there dying some people still, but only to get ground for plays to be publickly acted, which the Bishops would not suffer till the plague was over; and one would thinke so, by the suddenness of the notice given of the day, which was last Sunday, and the little ceremony.

WORSE AND WORSE. [By George Digby, Earl of Bristol.] *Cast not known.* *Monday 26*
 COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on His Majesty's At Court
 bill at the Duke's Company, L. C. 5/139, p. 125: *Worse & Worse* at Court.
 See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 346.

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