

## December 1667

- COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: [Willet's aunt] tell us that Catelin is likely to be soon acted, which I am glad to hear, but it is at the King's house. But the King's House is at present and hath for some days been silenced upon some difference [between] Hart and Moone [Mohun]. Saturday 7  
Bridges
- COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: I met Rolt and Sir John Chichly, and Harris, the player, and there we talked of many things, and particularly of "Catiline," which is to be suddenly acted at the King's house; and there all agree that it cannot be well done at that house, there not being good actors enow: and Burt acts Cicero, which they all conclude he will not be able to do well. The King gives them £500 for robes, there being, as they say, to be sixteen scarlett robes. Thence home for dinner, and would have had Harris home with me, but it was too late for him to get to the playhouse after it. Wednesday 11  
Bridges
- THE TEMPEST. See 7 Nov. Thursday 12  
LIF  
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: I all alone to the Duke of York's house, and saw "The Tempest," which, as often as I have seen it, I do like very well, and the house very full. But I could take little pleasure more than the play, for not being able to look about, for fear of being seen.
- TU QUOQUE. [By John Cooke.] *Cast not known.* Monday 16  
LIF  
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/139, p. 125. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 347.
- THE SURPRIZAL. [By Sir Robert Howard.] [Samira] – Nell Gwyn. See also 8 April 1663. Thursday 26  
Bridges  
COMMENT. The King's Company. See Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 322, for an L. C. order concerning Mohun's not acting for some time past. Pepys, *Diary*: With my wife to the King's playhouse, and there saw "The Surprizall"; which did not please me to-day, the actors not pleasing me; and especially Nell's acting of a serious part, which she spoils.
- THE COMICAL REVENGE; or, Love in a Tub. [By Sir George Etherege.] *Cast not known*, but see March 1664. Saturday 28  
LIF  
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This play is on the L. C. list, 5/139, p. 125. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 347.
- ALL MISTAKEN; or, The Mad Couple. [By James Howard.] As 20 Sept. 1667. Bridges  
COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: With my wife and girle to the King's house, and there saw "The Mad Couple," which is but an ordinary play; but only Nell's and Hart's mad parts are most excellently done, but especially her's: which makes it a miracle to me to think how ill she do any serious part, as the other day [26 Dec.], just like a fool or changeling; and, in a mad part, do beyond all imitation almost. It pleased us mightily to see the natural affection of a poor woman, the mother of one of the children brought on the stage: the child crying, she by force got upon the stage, and took up her child and carried it away off of the stage from Hart. Many fine faces here to-day.
- LOVE'S CRUELTY. [By James Shirley.] *Cast not known.* Monday 30  
Bridges  
COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: With Sir Philip Carteret to the King's playhouse, there to see "Love's Cruelty," an old play, but which I have

Monday 30  
Bridges

not seen before; and in the first act Orange Moll come to me, with one of the porters by my house, to tell me that Mrs Pierce and Knepp did dine at my house to-day, and that I was desired to come home. So I went out presently, and by coach home, and they were just gone away; so, after a very little stay with my wife, I took coach again, and to the King's playhouse again, and come in the fourth act; and it proves to me a very silly play, and to everybody else, as far as I could judge. But the jest is, that here telling Moll how I had lost my journey, she told me that Mrs Knepp was in the house, and so shews me to her, and I went to her, and sat out the play. . . . I could not but observe that Sir Philip Carteret would fain have given me my going into a play; but yet, when he come to the door, he had no money to pay for himself, I having refused to accept of it for myself, but was fain; and I perceive he is known there, and do run upon the score for plays, which is a shame. . . . In the pit I met with Sir Ch. North.

## January 1668

Wednesday 1  
LIF

FEIGN'D INNOCENCE; or, Sir Martin Marall. [By John Dryden.] See 15 Aug. 1667.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: I after dinner to the Duke of York's playhouse, and there saw "Sir Martin Mar-all"; which I have seen so often, and yet am mightily pleased with it, and think it mighty witty, and the fullest of proper matter for mirth that ever was writ; and I do clearly see that they do improve in their acting of it. Here a mighty company of citizens, 'prentices, and others; and it makes me observe, that when I begun first to be able to bestow a play on myself, I do not remember that I saw so many by half of the ordinary 'prentices and mean people in the pit at 2s. 6d. a-piece as now; I going for several years no higher than the 12d. and then the 18d. places, though I strained hard to go in them when I did: so much the vanity and prodigality of the age is to be observed in this particular.

Saturday 4  
Bridges

SECRET LOVE; or, The Maiden Queen. [By John Dryden.] See 24 May 1667.

COMMENT. The King's Company. This performance is on the L. C. lists, 5/139, p. 129, and 5/12, p. 17. The Mayden Queene at the Theatre. The second list adds: King here. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 344.

Monday 6  
LIF

THE TEMPEST. [Altered from William Shakespeare by Sir William Davenant and John Dryden.] See 7 Nov. 1667.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: Away to my wife at the Duke of York's house, in the pit, and so left her; and to Mrs Pierce, and took her and her cozen Corbet, Knepp and little James, and brought them to the Duke's house; and, the house being full, was forced to carry them to a box, which did cost me 20s., besides oranges, which troubled me, though their company did please me. Thence, after the play, stayed till Harris was undressed, there being acted "The Tempest," and so he withall, all by coach, home.

Tuesday 7  
Nursery

COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: I away by coach to the Nursery, where I never was yet, and there to meet my wife and Mercer and Willet as they promised; but the house did not act to-day; and so I was at a loss for them.

LIF

THE SCHOOL OF COMPLIMENTS. [By James Shirley.] *Cast not known.*

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, *Diary*: [After looking in at the Nursery] and therefore to the other two playhouses into the pit, to gaze up and down, to look for them, and there did by this means, for nothing, see an act in "The Schoole of Compliments" at the Duke's house.