

- MACBETH. [Altered from William Shakespeare by Sir William Davenant.] *Cast not known.* Monday 8  
[DL or DG]  
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 125: The King & Queene & a Box for y<sup>e</sup> Maydes of honor. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 350. A reprint of this play in 1687 has the cast of the 1674 edition.
- THE HUMOROUS LIEUTENANT. [By John Fletcher.] *Cast not known.* Wednesday 10  
At Court  
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 125. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 350.
- [CADMUS ET HERMIONE. By [J. B. (?)] Quinault and John Baptist Lully. By French performers.] Thursday 11  
[DL or DG]  
COMMENT. Peregrine Bertie to the Countess of Rutland, 11 Feb. 1685/6: To-day was the French opera. The King and Queen were there, the musicke was indeed very fine, but all the dresses the most wretched I ever saw; 'twas acted by none but French. A Saturday the Court goes to another play, to take their leaves of those vanities till after Lent (HMC, 12th Report, Appendix, Rutland MSS., Part v, Vol. II, p. 104). [This performance is on the L. C. list 5/147, p. 125: The King & Queene & a Box for y<sup>e</sup> Maydes of honor at y<sup>e</sup> French Opera [the charge for the royal box was increased from £20 to £25 on this occasion]. W. J. Lawrence conjectured that this French opera was *Cadmus et Hermione* and that Jacques Rousseau, a scene painter of Paris, provided the decor. See W. J. Lawrence, "The French opera in London: A Riddle of 1686," *TLS*, 28 March 1936, p. 268.
- COMMENT. Possibly a play was given this day at Court. See the correspondence under 11 Feb. 1685/6. Saturday 13  
At Court
- AN EVENING'S LOVE; or, The Mock Astrologer. [By John Dryden.] *Cast not known.* Tuesday 16  
At Court  
COMMENT. The United Company. The date of this performance is stated as 16 Feb. (L. C. records) or 17 Feb. (Peregrine Bertie), but as Lent began on Wednesday 17 Feb., the performance probably occurred on Shrove Tuesday. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 125. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 350.  
Peregrine Bertie to the Countess of Rutland, 17 Feb. 1685/6: To night will be the last play att Court, they tell mee 'tis the *Mocke Astrologer* (HMC, 12th Report, Appendix, Rutland Mss., Part v, p. 105).  
John Povey to Sir Robert Southwell, 18 Feb. 1685/6: Sir, The enclosed had been sent last post, had it not been detained late by a play at Court which ended our Carnival. The night before the King and Queen were entertained by the Lord President at a ball or masque in Lady Portsmouth's lodgings. The Masquers were twelve couples whose habits were of several nations, and prescribed by a picture sent to each of them from the Queen, and the least habit cost above a hundred pounds, and some above three hundred pounds, besides jewels of which Mrs Fox and some others had above thirty thousand pounds value each (Savile-Finch Correspondence, Add. Mss. 28,569; I owe this quotation to Professor John Harold Wilson).
- March 1686
- THE DEVIL OF A WIFE; or, A Comical Transformation. [By Thomas Jevon.] Thursday 4  
DG  
Edition of 1686: Sir Richard Lovemore – Gryffin; Rowland – Bowman; Longmore – Peryn; Butler – Saunders; Cook – Percyval; Footman – Low; The Ladies Father –

- Tbursday 4*  
DG  
Norris; Noddy – Powel; Jobson – Jevon; Doctor – Freeman; Lady Lovemore – Mrs Cook; Jane – Mrs Price; Lettice – Mrs Twyford; Nell – Mrs Percyval. Prologue, spoke by Mr Jevon. Epilogue, Spoken by Mr Jevon and Mrs Percyval.  
COMMENT. The United Company. Newdigate newsletters, 4 March 1685/6: This day a new play called *The Devil of a Wife* was Acted with great Applause at that formerly called the Ds Playhouse (Wilson, "Theatre Notes from the Newdigate Newsletters," p. 82). See also 6 March 1685/6.
- Saturday 6*  
DG  
THE DEVIL OF A WIFE. See 4 March 1685/6.  
COMMENT. The United Company. Peregrine Bertie to the Countess of Rutland, 6 March 1685/6: To day is acted Jevarns' new farse; Thursday was the first day. I must confess it is the strangest thinge I ever saw; 'twas mighty full the last time, and to day there is noe getting in (HMC, 12th Report, Appendix, Rutland MSS., Part v, Vol. II, p. 106). [Since Friday 5 March was a Friday in Lent, it is possible that the farce was not given on that day.]

## April 1686

Monday 29 March–Saturday 3 April

## PASSION WEEK

- Tbursday 8*  
[DL or DG]  
THE COMMITTEE. [By Sir Robert Howard.] *Cast not known.*  
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 125: *The King & Queene & a Box for y<sup>e</sup> Maydes of honor.* See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 351.
- Mid-April*  
DL  
THE LUCKEY CHANCE; or, An Alderman's Bargain. [By Mrs Aphra Behn.]  
Edition of 1687: Prologue, Spoken by Mr Jevon. Sir Feeble Fainwou'd – Leigh; Sir Cautious Fulbank – Nokes; Gayman – Batterton; Belmour – Kenestone; Bearjest – Jevon; Noysey – Harris; Bredwell – Bowman; Lady Fulbank – Mrs Barry; Leticia – Mrs Cook; Diana – Mrs Mountford; Gammer Grime – Mrs Powell. Epilogue, Written by a Person of Quality, Spoken by Mr Betterton.  
COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known. The edition of 1687 states on the title page: This may be printed, April 23, 1686. It was entered in the *Stationers' Register*, 8 May 1686, under the title: *The Disappointed Marriage; or, Te Generous Mistris.* It was probably first given before mid-April 1686, with the publication delayed, a delay accounting for the fact that Mrs Percival, who did not marry Mountfort until 2 July 1686, appears in the cast as Mrs Mountford. A song, "O love that stronger art than wine," the music by John Blow, the verse by Ousley, and sung by John Bowman, is in *The Theater of Music*, The Fourth Book, 1687.
- Friday 30*  
At Court  
HAMLET, PRINCE OF DENMARK. [By William Shakespeare.] *Cast not known.*  
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 125. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 351.