

Sunday 30
At Court
CONCERT. Evelyn, *Diary*: I heard the famous Cifeccio (Eunuch) [Giovanni Francesco Grossi, called Siface] sing, in the new popish chapell this afternoone, which was indeede very rare, & with greate skill: He came over from Rome, esteemed one of the best Voices in Italy, much crowding, little devotion.

Monday 31

A FAST DAY FOR THE MARTYRDOM OF CHARLES I

February 1687

Tuesday 1
[DL or DG]
THE COMMITTEE. [By Sir Robert Howard.] *Cast not known.*
COMMENT. The United Company. Lord Ashburnham's *Diary*: I went to the Play, (The Committee) [Ashburnham MS 932; see 14 Dec. 1686].

Wednesday 2
IT
THE SPANISH PRIEST. [*The Spanish Curate*, by John Fletcher and Philip Massinger.]
Cast not known.
COMMENT. The United Company. The play is probably *The Spanish Curate* rather than Dryden's *The Spanish Fryar*, for the latter, on 8 Dec. 1686, was ordered not to be acted. The players received the customary fee of £20. See *A Calendar of the Inner Temple Records*, ed. Inderwick, III, 244.

Wednesday 16
COMMENT. John Dryden to Sir George Etherege, 16 Feb. 1686/7: The Coffee-house stands certainly where it did, & angry men meet in the square sometimes, as Abercomby, & Goodman lately did, where they say Alexander the Great was wounded in the arme (*The Letters of John Dryden*, ed. Ward, p. 27). See 27 Oct. 1686.

Tuesday 22
DL
A KING AND NO KING. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.] *Cast not known.* For a previous cast, see season of 1682-83.
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is known from a playbill. See Eleanore Boswell, "A Playbill of 1687," *Library*, 4th Series, XI (1931), 499-502, and Cecil Price, "A Playbill, c. 1686," *Notes and Queries*, Vol. 194 (1949), p. 519. The bill Price saw is in the *State Papers James II*, 31/3, ff. 215-16, among documents referring to 1686, but the date and day of the week point to 1687. The bill reads: At the Theatre Royall this present Tuesday being the Twenty second day of February will be presented, A Play called, A KING, AND NO KING. Beginning Exact . . . t Four of the Clock. . . their Majesties Servants. VIVAT REX.

March 1687

DG
THE EMPEROUR OF THE MOON. [By Mrs Aphra Behn.] Edition of 1687: Prologue Spoken by Mr Jevern. Dr Baliardo - Underhill; Scaramouch - Lee; Don Cinthio - Young Mr Powell; Don Charmante - Mumford; Harlequin - Jevern; Elaria - Mrs Cooke; Bellemante - Mrs Mumford; Mopsophil - Mrs Cory. Epilogue, To be spoken by Mrs Cooke.

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but the play was licensed 6 April 1687 in the *Stationers' Register*, 24 May 1687. The play was probably given first in March, as the Prologue refers to the speaking head, which was mentioned in the Newdigate newsletters (Folger

- Shakespeare Library), 26 March 1687: A Country man haveing invented a head & soe contrived it that whatever language or tune you speak in the Mouth of it it Repeated distinctly and Audibly. [I owe this reference to Professor John Harold Wilson.] DG
- COMMENT. The score of *Albion and Albanus* was licensed for publication, 15 March 1686/7, and sold at the Theatre Royal (Drury Lane) entrance. Possibly a revival occurred at this time. Tuesday 15 DG

Monday 21-Saturday 26
PASSION WEEK

- COMMENT. On this date William Hemmings' *The Eunuch* was licensed. The play was published in 1687, but there is no certainty that it was acted. The problem is made more complicated by the production of Sedley's *Bellamira*—see 12 May 1687—which was derived from Terence's *The Eunuch*. See the introductory note for the 1676-77 season for the possibility that *The Eunuch* was acted then. Saturday 26 [DL or DG]

April 1687

- THE MAID'S TRAGEDY. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.] *Cast not known.* Wednesday 6 [DL or DG]
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 361: The King & Queene & a Box for y^e Maides of Honor. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 351.
- THE SPANISH CURATE. [By John Fletcher and Philip Massinger.] *Cast not known.* Monday 11 At Court
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 361. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 351.
- JULIUS CAESAR. [By William Shakespeare.] *Cast not known.* For a recent cast, see the season of 1683-84. Monday 18 At Court
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 361. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 351. There are undated editions of this play which appear to have been issued between 1685 and 1687.
- COMMENT. For additional comment upon the Italian singer called Ciface, see Evelyn, *Diary*, 19 April 1687. Tuesday 19
- THE ISLAND PRINCESS. [Adapted from John Fletcher by Nahum Tate.] Monday 25 At Court
Edition of 1687: King of Tedere - Kynaston; Quisara - Mrs Cook; Fanura - Mrs Mumford; Governor - Gillo; Bakam - Powel; Syana - Harris; Ruidias - Griffin; Armusia - Smith; Sforza - Norris; Emanuel - Powel Jr; Pymero - Mumford.
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/147, p. 361. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 351. The date of the first performance of this revision is not known. As it is somewhat unlikely that a play would have its premiere at Court, the first production possibly appeared earlier in the month. See 6 Nov. 1668 for an earlier revision of this work. The title-page of the edition of 1687 states: As it is Acted at the Theatre-Royal. Reviv'd with Alterations.