

Wednesday 3
DL Scrapeall – Freeman; Attorney – Powell Sr; Lolpoop – Underhill; Termagant – Alexander [Verbruggen (?)]; Teresia – Mrs Knight; Isabella – Mrs Mountford; Ruth – Mrs Cory; Lucia – Mrs Bracegirdle; Mrs Termagant – Mrs Bowtell. Epilogue, Spoken by Mrs Mountfort.

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not certain, but it was very likely this day. Writing on 12 May 1688, Peregrine Bertie states that it had been acted nine days successively. If the ninth performance fell on Friday 12 May, the premiere probably occurred on Wednesday 3 May. The Prologue and Epilogue, printed separately, are reprinted in Wiley, *Rare Prologues and Epilogues*, pp. 261–63.

Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 41): This Play by its Excellent Acting, being often Honour'd with the presence of Chancellor Jeffereies, and other great Persons had an Uninterrupted run of 13 Days together. Note, The Poet received for his third Day in the House in Drury Lane at single Prizes 130 *l.* which was the greatest Receipt they ever had at that House at single Prizes.

Dedication, Edition of 1688: This, I must confess, made me hope for success upon the Stage, which it met with, but so great, as was above my expectation (in this Age which has run mad after Farces) no Comedy, for these many years, having fill'd the Theatre so long together: And I had the great Honour to find so many Friends, that the House was never so full since it was built, as upon the third day of this Play; and vast numbers went away, that could not be admitted.

For Leigh as Belfond Sr, see Cibber, *Apology*, ed. Lowe, I, 147–48; and for Underhill as Lolpoop, I, 154–55. For further comment upon the play, see 12 May 1688.

Thursday 4
DL THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA. See 3 May 1688.

Friday 5
DL THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA. See 3 May 1688.
COMMENT. If the sequence of performances outlined here is correct, this is the third day. See Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 41) for the receipts, and Peregrine Bertie's comments on 12 May 1688.

Saturday 6
DL THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA. See 3 May 1688.

Monday 8
DL THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA. See 3 May 1688.

Tuesday 9
DL THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA. See 3 May 1688.

Wednesday 10
DL THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA. See 3 May 1688.

Thursday 11
DL THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA. See 3 May 1688.

Friday 12
DL THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA. See 3 May 1688.
COMMENT. The United Company. Peregrine Bertie to the Countess of Rutland, 12 May 1688: We have had since my last another new play, a comedy writ by Shadwell, called the *Esquire of Alsatia*. It has been acted nine days successively, and on the third day the poet got 16 *l.* more than any other poet ever did. When all this is granted, there is nothing in it extraordinary—except it is a Latin song—but the thin reason why it takes soe well is, because it brings severall of the cant words upon the stage which some in town have invented, and turns them into ridicule (HMC, 12th Report, Appendix, Rutland MSS., Part v, Vol. II, p. 119).

Saturday 13
DL THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA. See 3 May 1688.