Tuesday 15 At Court

[CALISTO probably rehearsed]. Evelyn, Diary: Saw a Comedie at night, at Court, acted by the Ladys onely, viz: The Lady Mary & Ann his R: Highnesses two Daughters, & my deare friend Mrs Blagg, who having the principal part, perform'd it to admiration: They were all covered with Jewels. [It seems likely that Evelyn saw a rehearsal or was in error concerning the date of performance.]

Newdigate newsletters (Folger Shakespeare Library): On Twelfe day the principallest abt ye Court divert their Matys with a Play & Opera where in ye Splendor & Grandeur of the English Monarchy will be seen (Wilson, "Theatre Notes," p. 79). See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, pp. 357-58, for an order of this date, L. C. 5/141, p. 83, concerning habits for the opera.

Thursday 17 DL

THE ISLAND PRINCESS; or, The Generous Portuguese. [Altered from John Fletcher.] Cast not known. For a previous cast, see 6 Nov. 1668.

COMMENT. The King's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/141, p. 116. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 345.

Monday 21 DL

THE REHEARSAL. [By George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham.] Cast not known. COMMENT. The King's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/141, p. 116. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 345. This play was reprinted in 1675, as the third edition: With Amendments and large Additions by the Author.

Tuesday 22 At Court

[A Rehearsal of CALISTO.]

COMMENT. Evelyn, Diary: [I] was at the repetition of the Pastoral, on which [occasion] my friend Mrs Blagg, had about her neere 20.000 pounds worth of Jewells, of which one she lost, borrowed of the Countesse of Suffolck, worth about 80 pounds, which the Duke made good; & indeede the presse of people was so greate, that it was a wonder she lost no more.

There is some doubt that this was a full performance of the work, for Evelyn refers to it as "the repetition" and other evidence points to 15 Feb. 1674/5 as the first complete production. See Boswell, Restoration Court Stage, pp. 180-81. It is probable that Mrs Blagge's loss of jewels occurred, not on this date, but on 15 Feb. 1674/5. For a more complete account of that incident, see The Life of Mrs Godolphin by John Evelyn of Wotton, ed. Samuel Lord Bishop of Oxford (London, 1874), pp. 97-101. See also 15 Feb. 1674/5.

Monday 28

THE REHEARSAL. [By George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham.] Cast not known. COMMENT. The King's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/141, p. 116. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 345.

Wednesday 30 SHE WOULD IF SHE COULD. [By Sir George Etherege.] Cast not known. For a previous cast, see 6 Feb. 1667/8.

> COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/141, p. 216. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 348.

January 1675

COMMENT. A letter, written in January 1674/5, mentions the hissing Admiral Van Tromp received when "he was conducted over the stage to get to his place" at a performance of "a new play" at one of the London theatres. See Lady Newton, The House of Lyme (London, 1917), p. 271.

