Monday 2 Bridges

Pepys, Diary: To the King's Playhouse . . . my wife and I and Madamoiselle. I paid for her going in, and there saw "The Labyrinth," the poorest play, methinks, that ever I saw, there being nothing in it but the odd accidents that fell out, by a lady's being bred up in men's apparel, and a man in a woman's.

Monday 30 Red Bull

COMMENT. A facsimile of a bill announcing "A Trial of Skill" at this playhouse, 30 May 1664, is in Rariora, ed. John Eliot Hodgkin (London, n.d.), III, 53-54. See also William Van Lennep, "The Death of the Red Bull," Theatre Notebook, XVI (1962), 133-34.

## June 1664

**Bridges** 

THE RIVAL LADIES. [By John Dryden.] Edition of 1664: No actors' names. Prologue. The Epilogue is in Bodleian MSS. Ashmol. 36, 37, f. 267. COMMENT. The King's Company. The play was entered in the Stationers' Register, 27 June 1664. For the Epilogue, see R. G. Ham, "Dryden's Epilogue to The Rival Ladies, 1664," Review of English Studies, XIII (1937), 76-80.

Wednesday 1 **Bridges** 

THE SILENT WOMAN. [By Ben Jonson.] Cast not known, but see 7 Jan. 1660/1 COMMENT. The King's Company. Pepys, Diary: [Mrs Pepys] and I to the King's house, and saw "The Silent Woman"; but methought not so well done or so good a play as I formerly thought it to be, or else I am now-a-days out of humour. Before the play was done, it fell such a storm of hayle, that we in the middle of the pit were fain to rise; and all the house in a disorder.

## July 1664

Thursday 14 At Court

[POMPEY THE GREAT.] See Jan. 1663/4.

COMMENT. Charles II to Madame, 14 July 1664: I am iust now come from seeing a new ill play and it is almost midnight (C. H. Hartman, Charles II and Madame [1934], p. 108). W. J. Lawrence, in a review of Boswell, The Restoration Court Stage, in Modern Language Review, XXVIII (1933), 103, stated his belief that this play was acted at court this day.

LIF

Wednesday 20 WORSE AND WORSE. [By George Digby, Earl of Bristol.] Cast not known. COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The play apparently was never printed. Downes, Roscius Anglicanus, p. 26: Made out of Spanish, by the Earl of Bristol. Pepys, Diary: Went to a play, only a piece of it, which was at the Duke's house, "Worse and Worse"; just the same manner of play, and writ, I believe, by the same man as "The Adventures of Five Hours"; very pleasant it was, and I begin to admire Harris more than ever.

Thursday 28 LIF

THE BONDMAN. [By Philip Massinger.] [Bondman] - Betterton; [Cleora] -Mrs Betterton. See also 2 April 1662.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. Pepys, Diary: And seeing "The Bondman" upon the posts, I consulted my oaths and find I may go safely this time without breaking it. . . . There I saw it acted. It is true, for want of practice, they had many of them forgot their parts a little; but Betterton and my poor Ianthe outdo all the world. There is nothing more taking in the world with me than that play.

