

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. On Thursday 10 Dec. 1663, Pepys reported that this play was to be acted the following week, but the date of the first performance is uncertain. But—except for the holidays—it was probably acted on consecutive days until 1 Jan. 1663/4, when Pepys saw it. The play is also in Herbert, *Dramatic Records*, p. 138, as a "Revived Play." Pepys, *Diary*: I perceive the King and Duke and all the Court was going to the Duke's playhouse to see "Henry VIII." acted, which is said to be an admirable play. But, Lord! to see how near I was to have broken my oathe, or run the hazard of 20*l*. losse, so much my nature was hot to have gone thither; but I did not go.

Tuesday 22
LIF

Downes (p. 24): *King Henry the 8th*, This Play, by Order of Sir William Davenant, was all new Cloath'd in proper Habits: The King's was new, all the Lords, the Cardinals, the Bishops, the Doctors, Proctors, Lawyers, Tip-staves, new Scenes: The part of the King was so right and justly done by Mr Betterton, he being Instructed in it by Sir William, who had it from Old Mr Lowen, that had his Instructions from Mr Shakespear himself, that I dare and will aver, none can, or will come near him in this Age, in the performance of that part: Mr Harris's performance of Cardinal Wolsey, was little Inferior to that, he doing it with such just State, Port, and Mein, that I dare affirm, none hitherto has Equall'd him: . . . Every part by the great Care of Sir William, being exactly perform'd; it being all new Cloath'd and new Scenes; it continu'd Acting 15 Days together with general Applause.

HENRY VIII. See 22 Dec.

Wednesday 23
LIF

HENRY VIII. See 22 Dec.

Saturday 26
LIF

COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*, 24 Dec.: By and by comes in Captain Ferrers to see us, and, among other talke, tells us of the goodness of the new play of "Henry VIII," which makes me think it long till my time is out.

[KNAVERY IN ALL TRADES; or, The Coffee-House.] *Author not known*. Edition of 1664 lists no actors' names, no prologue, no epilogue.

COMMENT. Edition of 1664: A Comedy. As it was Acted in the Christmas Holidays by several Apprentices. With great Applause. With License.

HENRY VIII. See 22 Dec.

Monday 28
LIF

HENRY VIII. See 22 Dec.

Tuesday 29
LIF

HENRY VIII. See 22 Dec.

Wednesday 30
LIF

HENRY VIII. See 22 Dec.

Thursday 31
LIF

January 1664

POMPEY THE GREAT. [By Edmund Waller, Sir Charles Sedley, Edward Filmer, Sidney Godolphin, and Charles Sackville.] Edition of 1664: No actors' names. Prologue At the House. Epilogue at the House. Epilogue to the King at Saint James's. Epilogue To the Dutchess at Saint James's. [One Epilogue was written by Sir Edward Deering.] At the end: After which a grand Masque is Danc'd before Caesar and Cleopatra, made (as well as the other Dances and the Tunes to them) by Mr John Ogilby.

At Court

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of performance is uncertain. The play was entered in the *Stationers' Register*, 15 Feb. 1663/4, and its publication

- At Court noted in *The Newes*, 3 March 1663/4. Katherine Philips, writing from Cardigan, Wales, to Lady Temple in London, 24 Jan. 1663/4: I beleive er'e this you have seen the new Pompey either acted or written & then will repent your partiality to y^e other, but I wonder much what preparations for it could prejudice Will Davenant when I heare they acted in English habits, & y^t so aprope y^t Caesar was sent in with his feather & Muff, till he was hiss'd off y^e Stage & for y^e Scenes I see not where they could place any y^t are very extra-ordinary, but if this play hath not diverted y^e Cittizens wives enough S^r W: D: will make amends, for they say Harry y^e 8th & some later ones are little better then Puppett-plays. I understand y^e confederate-translators are now upon Heraclius, & I am contented y^t S^r Tho. Clarges (who hath done that last yeare) should adorn their triumph in it, as I have done in Pompey (Harvard Theatre Collection).
- Friday 1 HENRY VIII. See 22 Dec. 1663.
LIF COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: But my wife and I rose from table, pretending business, and went to the Duke's house, the first play I have been at these six months, according to my last vowe, and here saw the so much cried-up play of "Henry the Eighth"; which, though I went with resolution to like it, is so simple a thing made up of a great many patches, that, besides the shows and processions in it, there is nothing in the world good or well done.
- Saturday 2 THE USURPER. [By Edward Howard.] Edition of 1668 has Prologue and
Bridges Epilogue but no actors' names.
COMMENT. The King's Company. There is no indication as to whether this is the first performance of the play. Pepys, *Diary*: I took my wife out, for I do find that I am not able to conquer myself as to going to plays till I come to some new vowe concerning it, and that I am now come, that is to say, that I will not see above one in a month at any of the publique theatres till the sum of 50s. be spent, and then none before New Year's day next, unless that I do become worth £1,000 sooner than then, and then am free to come to some other terms. . . . to the King's house, and there met Mr Nicholson, my old colleague, and saw "The Usurper," which is no good play, though better than what I saw yesterday. However, we rose unsatisfied.
- Monday 25 THE INDIAN QUEEN. [By Sir Robert Howard and John Dryden.] Edition of
Bridges 1665 has a Prologue and an Epilogue spoken by Montezuma, but no actors' names. However, Anne Marshall played a role (see Pepys, 1 Feb. 1663/4).
COMMENT. The King's Company. It is difficult to determine the run of the play, as all the known performances fall on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, but, except for 30 January, a Fast Day, it may well have been performed daily. L. C. 5/138, f. 15: A Warrant to the Master of the Great Wardrobe to provide and deliuer to Thomas Killigrew Esqr to the value of forty pounds in silkes for to cloath the Musick for the play called the Indian Queen to be acted before their Maties Jan. 25th 1663 (Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 354).
- Tuesday 26 THE INDIAN QUEEN. See 25 Jan.
Bridges
- Wednesday 27 THE INDIAN QUEEN. See 25 Jan.
Bridges COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: In the way observing the streete full of coaches at the new play, "The Indian Queene"; which for show, they say, exceeds "Henry the Eighth."
- Thursday 28 THE INDIAN QUEEN. See 25 Jan.
Bridges
- Friday 29 THE INDIAN QUEEN. See 25 Jan.
Bridges COMMENT. Diary of Richard Boyle, Volume III, in the Duke of Devonshire's Library in Chatsworth: the new play caled the Indian Queen. [I am indebted to Professor Kathleen Lynch for this notice.]