

The Witty Fair One. By James Shirley. Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 27) includes this as one of Shirley's dramas revived after the reopening of the theatres, but he confuses the dating by placing the Shirley revivals after *Cambyzes*, which he assigns to 1666 but which is now assigned to Jan. 1670/1. For the complications resulting from Downes' statement, see (above) *The Grateful Servant*.

The Woman is a Weather Cock. By Nathan Field. Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 27) links a revival of this play with three of Shirley's, all of which he assigns to the period following the reopening of the theatres in 1666. See the discussion (above) under *The Grateful Servant*.

October 1666

Wednesday 10

A GENERAL FAST

Thursday 11
At Court WIT WITHOUT MONEY. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.] *Cast not known.*

COMMENT. Rugge's Diurnal, BM Add. Mss. 10, 117, folio 179: Acted at Whitehall at court a play witt wt'out mony before King and nobility. Pepys, *Diary*, 15 Oct.: But she [Lady Carteret] cries out of the vices of the Court, and how they are going to set up plays already; and how, the next day after the late great fast, the Duchesse of York did give the King and Queene a play. Nay, she told me that they have heretofore had plays at Court the very nights before the fast for the death of the late King [i.e., on the night preceding 30 Jan.].

Thursday 18
At Court MUSTAPHA. [By Roger Boyle, Earl of Orrery.] *Cast not known*, but see 3 April 1665.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company, presumably. Evelyn, *Diary*: This night was acted my Lord Brahals Tragedy cal'd *Mustapha* before their Majesties &c: at Court: at which I was present, very seldom at any time, going to the publique Theaters, for many reasons, now as they were abused, to an atheisticall liberty, fowle & undecent; Women now (& never 'til now) permitted to appeare & act, which inflaming severall young noble-men & gallants, became their whores, & to some their Wives, wittnesse the Earle of Oxford, Sir R: Howard, Pr: Rupert, the E: of Dorset, & another greater person than any of these, who fell into their snares, to the reproch of their noble families, & ruine both of body & Soule: I was invited to see this Tragedie, exceedingly well writ, by my Lord Chamberlain, though in my mind, I did not approve of any such passe time, in a season of such Judgements & Calamitie.

Pepys, *Diary*: Here my Lord Bruncker proffered to carry me and my wife into a play at Court to-night, and to lend me his coach home, which tempted me much; but I shall not do it.

Thursday 25 COMMENT. Pepys, *Diary*: [Mrs Knipp] told us they begin at both houses to act on Monday [29] next. But I fear, after all this sorrow, their pains will be but little. Mrs Williams says, the Duke's house will now be much the better of the two, because of their women; which I am glad to hear.