Season of 1703-1704

On the surface, this was a very quiet season. Tugging and hauling occurred behind the scenes, but the two companies coexisted quite politely for most of the year until a sour prologue exchange occurred in July. Our records for Drury Lane are virtually complete. They are much less so for Lincoln's Inn Fields, which advertised almost not at all until 18 January 1704. At that time someone clearly made a decision to emulate Drury Lane's policy of advertising in London's one daily paper. Neither this season nor the next did the LIF/Queen's company advertise every day, but the ads become regular enough that we start to get a reasonable idea of their repertory. Both companies apparently permitted a lot of actor benefits during the autumn—probably a sign of scanty receipts and short-paid salaries. Throughout the season advertisements make plain that both companies relied heavily on entr'acte song and dance to pull in an audience. Newspaper bills almost always mention singing and dancing, sometimes specifying the items in considerable detail, whereas casts are never advertised. Occasionally one or two performers will be featured, but at this date the cast seems not to have been conceived as the basic draw. Or perhaps the managers were merely economizing, treating newspaper advertisements as the equivalent of handbills rather than “Great Bills.” The importance of music to the public at this time is also evident in the numerous concerts of various sorts on offer, and in the founding of The Monthly Mask of Vocal Musick, a periodical devoted to printing new songs, including some from the theatre.¹

One of the most interesting developments of this season is a ten-concert series generally advertised as “The Subscription Musick.” So far as we are aware, it has attracted no scholarly commentary whatever, but it may well be the first series of its kind in the history of music in London. With the exception of the final performance on 30 March, all of the concerts were given on

¹ On this important and little-known publication, see the edition by Olive Baldwin and Thelma Wilson (Music for London Entertainment series, forthcoming).
Tuesdays, the first occurring on 30 November. Six of the ten were held at Drury Lane, the other four at Lincoln's Inn Fields. The personnel included performers from both theatres and freelancers as well, most notably Catherine Tofts. The theatre companies may have been doing poorly enough to be glad to rent out their buildings when they could, but the personnel and venues of these concerts suggest a degree of cooperation between the companies lacking since the rebellion of 1694—as do the joint court performances held in the spring.

The most conspicuous theatrical events of the year were command performances at St James's Palace in the winter and spring—at least two, and probably three of them. Queen Anne attended court performances of All for Love on 7 February and Sir Salomon on 28 February; as best we can determine from muddled records, she also had The Merry Wives of Windsor performed for her on 24 April. These gala performances were given by actors, singers, and dancers drawn from both companies. By contrast with the reign of William and Mary, this was extravagant display. R. O. Bucholz has traced Anne's attempts to enliven her court without loss of dignity, to steer a middle course in her official entertainments between her indulgent uncle, Charles II, and the too-solemn tone of her immediate predecessors. If the actors hoped for a return to the palmy days of Charles II, they were disappointed. Queen Anne's personal view of the theatre is not directly recorded, but judging by the increasing prominence of music and dance in court entertainments, she had reservations about plays, and the interest of her Vice Chamberlain in opera may have helped push her in the less-controversial direction of music. Her moral sympathies were with the reformers, who continued to clamor against the theatre and demand its suppression. Anne was not prepared to yield on the legitimacy of public theatres: her father and sister had been great playgoers, and she was unwilling to rescind the patents granted by her uncle in the 1660s. She did, however, issue some pious proclamations and instruct Charles Killigrew, Master of the Revels, to attend seriously to his responsibilities as censor and licencer (see 15 and 17 January). But much to the disappointment of the reformers, that was as far as she was ever to go, and from this period the censorship and suppression movement was gradually to lose its steam.

A new threat to the stability of the theatre world emerged in the spring when Sir Edward Smith brought suit against practically everyone connected with both companies, charging them with fraud, collusion, and conspiracy to defraud shareholders of their profits. Some of Smith's charges were definitely paranoid and implausible: we can hardly suppose that the actors' rebel-

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2 The other dates were 14 and 21 December, 4 and 18 January, 1 and 22 February, 7, 14, and 30 March, and 26 April.

3 See Document Register, no. 1772, for a list of the eight major parts of this suit. Smith was joined as plaintiff by a long list of unpaid shareholders. To judge from papers in Guildhall MS 7842 (see Document Register, no. 1748), Smith persuaded some of these people to contribute money toward the suit.
lion of 1694 was merely a deep-laid plot to confuse the books of the patent company so thoroughly that Rich was enabled to refuse all rent and profits to investors in the company and the theatre buildings—though he unquestionably seized the opportunity to do just that. Without the patent company's account books (which have disappeared), there is no way to determine whether Rich and Skipwith lost their own money after about 1698. Whether they managed to skim some profits for themselves after that is anyone's guess, but the sums are not likely to have been large in any case. In the summer of 1704 no one could have known that the Smith suit would drag on disruptively for five years, but eventually come to nothing, and it must have added tensions to an already uncertain situation. The Lincoln's Inn Fields company was in limbo, awaiting a new theatre and a new owner/manager. Disagreements with Thomas Doggett (a cranky character at best) and Anthony L'Abbé (see 29 November and ca. January) may indicate stress and infighting within the company, or may just reflect individual differences of opinion. In any case, the status quo of nearly ten years' standing was about to end. By 31 August Vanbrugh was roofing in his new theatre, and the imminence of change must have been apparent to everyone.

**DRURY LANE**

Management continued as before, with Christopher Rich and his partner Sir Thomas Skipwith as patentees, and Rich in operational control of the theatre. Once again we do not know who handled the artistic matters Rich could not deal with, but since Richard Estcourt received three benefits while not being recorded as an actor, he must be considered a candidate.

**REPERTORY.** This is the first season in the history of the London theatre for which we have a substantially complete record of any company's offerings. According to Chancery testimony (see 23 July 1703) the company performed a total of 177 times between that date and 1 August 1704. Of that total, we know the offerings on 168 nights. During the season of 1703-04 (including the summer season of 1704), the Drury Lane company mounted 64 mainpieces and one medley on a total of 177 nights. Afterpieces as such were employed on only two nights. The new plays were few and not very successful. Taverner's *The Faithful Bride of Granada* (date unknown) would have vanished without trace had it not been published. Steele's *The Lying Lover* limped through six nights (2 December); the anonymous *Love the Leveller* was given an author's benefit the second night and dropped (26 January); *The Albion Queens* (6 March) was a revised version of a Banks play about Mary Queen of Scots that had been suppressed in 1684: it managed six nights.

**PERSONNEL.** *Actors:* John Bickerstaff; William Bullock; Colley Cibber; Henry Fairbank; Philip Griffin; Benjamin Husband; Benjamin Johnson; Thomas Kent; John Mills; Henry Norris; William Pinkethman; George Powell [from 17 June]; Tobias Thomas; William Toms; Robert Wilks; Joseph Williams. *Actresses:* Susannah Cox; Mary Kent; Frances Maria Knight; Jane Lucas;
Margaret Mills; Henrietta Moore; Anne Oldfield; Mary Powell [uncertain]; Jane Rogers.

_Singers:_ Mr Good; Richard Leveridge; John Mason; Mr Shaw [advertised 16 October only] // Margarita de l'Epine; Mary Lindsey; Mrs Shaw.

_Dancers:_ Richard Baxter [October and August only]; René Cherrier; Mr Claxton; Mr Cottin [advertised 15 August only]; Philippe Du Ruel; John Essex [advertised 5 November only]; Mons. La Forest; Joseph Sorin [October and August only] // Margaret Bicknell; Mary Anne Campion; Mrs Du Ruel; Mrs Mayers; Mrs Mosse.

_Musicians:_ John Banister (flutist); Francesco Gasparini; James Paisible.

_Other Employees:_ Zachary Baggs (treasurer); John Hall (in treasurer's office?); Owen Swiney.

LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS

During this season the company was basically marking time while waiting for Vanbrugh to complete his new theatre and move the company into it. Betterton continued as manager, though probably with very limited financial authority.

_REPERTORY._ Records are virtually nonexistent until the company began to advertise fairly regularly in the _Daily Courant_ in late January. We probably know three-quarters or more of the repertory, and slightly more than half the performance dates: 45 mainpieces on 89 nights (including one medley). The company employed afterpieces (mostly musical masques) on eleven occasions. It mounted seven new mainpieces and one new afterpiece. *The Rival Brothers,* an anonymous tragedy, cannot be dated even conjecturally, and apparently enjoyed little success. Thomas Walker's _Marry or do Worse_ (ca. mid-October) may have managed no more than a single night. Mary Pix’s _The Different Widows_ (ca. November) has left no trace of performance other than its title page and cast list. Joseph Trapp’s _Abra-Mule_ was the most successful new offering of the season, running up a dozen nights in all (13 January). John Dennis’ _Liberty Asserted_ managed a very creditable 11 performances (24 February). David Crauford’s _Love at First Sight_ failed (25 March). _Squire Trelooby,_ a translation of Molière’s _Monsieur Pourceaugnac_ by Vanbrugh, Congreve, and Walsh, was merely a jeu d’esprit concocted for a subscription concert and then used a couple of times more (30 March). On balance, Lincoln’s Inn Fields definitely came out ahead on new plays this year.

_PERSONNEL. Actors:_ Thomas Betterton; John Boman; Barton Booth; John Corey; Thomas Doggett; William Fieldhouse; John Freeman; Francis Knapp; Francis Leigh; Mr Lloyd; Mr Miller; George Pack; George Powell [until 17 June]; Mr Tattnal; Mr Trout; Cave Underhill; John Verbruggen; Mr

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4 Powell was ever a talented, troublesome, malcontent actor. His return to DL lasted only a year, after which he managed to jump to the Haymarket, whose company he
Weller. **Actresses**: Maria Allison; Elizabeth Barry; Mary Betterton; Elizabeth Boman; Anne Bracegirdle; Lucretia Bradshaw; Mrs Fieldhouse; Abigail Hunt; Abigail Lawson; Elinor Leigh; Susanna Mountfort; Mrs Parsons; Mary Porter; Mrs Potter; Mrs Prince; Elizabeth Willis.

**Singers**: Mr Cook; John Davis; Mr Short // Mary Hodgson.

**Dancers**: Charles Fairbank; John Godwin; Lewis Layfield [from 10 July]; Joseph Prince // Mrs Clark; Miss (or Mrs) Evans.5

**Musicians**: Thomas Dean (violin), Francisco Goodsens (Bass-Viol), Mr [William] Smith (Hautboy).

**Other Employees**: Mr Davis (doorkeeper); John Downes (prompter); John Smith.

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**UNDATEABLE PLAYS PERTAINING TO THIS SEASON**

**AN ACT AN OXFORD** (by Thomas Baker). Publication of this comedy was advertised in the *Post Man* of 26-29 February 1704, ascribed to “the Author of the Yeoman of Kent.” It was printed by Bernard Lintott, with a 1704 title page date. The play was banned, but the Dramatis Personae gives an intended cast: Bloom—Wilks; Captain Smart—Mills; Lampoon—Cibber; Squire Calf—Bullock; Deputy Driver—Johnson; Chum—Pinkethman // Berynthia—Mrs Rogers; Arabella—Mrs Moor; Mrs ap-Shinken (a Welch Runt)—Mrs Lucas. In the course of a lengthy Epistle Dedicatory the author discourses on propriety, impropriety, and dramatic reformers, but without more than touching on the play and its fate. “The only Misfortune I apprehended from this Play’s being forbid, was, that ’twou’d be Presumption to offer Your Lordship what was not thought fit for Representation.” Baker expresses the greatest respect for Oxford and the University (“the most perfect Enjoyment of Life, I found at Oxford”), vigorously denying any satiric intent or disrespect. He recycled large portions of this play into *Hampstead Heath*, performed at Drury Lane on 30 November 1705. No details of the suppression are known: we presume that Charles Killigrew simply refused a license.

**THE FAITHFUL BRIDE OF GRANADA** (by William Taverner). This play was acted at Drury Lane with a front-line cast, but its date is a puzzle. The title page date is 1704, and Avery listed it under May 1704 because it was entered deserted after attempting to foment a “mutiny” in November 1705. On his peregrinations, see *Biographical Dictionary*, XII, 111-113.

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5 The authors of the *Biographical Dictionary* (V, 113) treat “Miss Evans (fl. 1703-1708)” and “Mrs Evans (fl. 1705-1708)” as separate people. We have not, however, found any clear evidence that more than one female dancer named Evans performed in London between 1703 and 1708. We have therefore followed our sources in giving her as either “Miss” or “Mrs” in the text, but have indexed her as a single person.

6 *Heraclitus Ridens* (23-26 October 1703) says “there is a very excellent Band of Musicians there [at LIF], and among the rest three Gentlemen as Celebrated as any now living.” Dean was advertised only on 14 July; Goodsens and Smith not at all.

7 Named in *Heraclitus Ridens*, 23-26 October 1703; not otherwise known.
in the Stationers' Register in June. However, publication “This day” was advertised in the *Daily Courant* of 26 January 1704. On this basis Milhous (*Thomas Betterton*, p. 185) assigns it to January 1704. This is probably not correct: between 6 October and 26 January Drury Lane advertised so regularly that there is no period in which the play could have enjoyed the normal minimum three-day run. Possibly it was squeezed in on a single blank night, and failed immediately. Alternatively, it may have been produced late in the summer of 1703 and published more slowly than usual. What we know of the play comes entirely from publication. *The Faithful Bride of Granada*. A Play. As it is Acted at the Theatre Royal In Drury-Lane, By Her Majesty's Servants (London: James Knapton, William Turner, William Davis, and Bernard Lintott, 1704). Copy used: Readex. Prologue. Epilogue. Dramatis Personæ: Abdolin—Mills; Abinomin—Wilks; Oliman—Thomas; Ozmin—Capt. Griffin; Selim—Bickerstaff; Albovade—Husbands; Abass—Fairbank // Zelinda—Mrs Rogers; Abenede—Mrs Knight; Zaida—Mrs Kent. There is no record of revival.

**THE MIDNIGHT MISTAKES** (ghost?). This title and the date 1704 were reported by Stoddard Lincoln in his article on John Eccles in *New Grove* (V, 820), but without citation of source. The play Lincoln lists in garbled form is Joseph Williams' “Have at All, or The Midnight Mistakes [recte, Adventure] . . . Drury Lane, April 1694.” The title is discussed and dated 1704 by William J. Burling in “Four More ‘Lost’ Restoration Plays ‘Found’ in Musical Sources,” *Music and Letters*, 65 (1984), 47. Lincoln’s source was, we presume, a song, “You damzells who sleep, devoid of all care,” published in John Eccles’s *Collection of Songs*, 14 November 1704. Our best guess is that Eccles wrote some music for Williams's play a decade before the publication of his song collection and that there is no play of 1704.

**THE PORTSMOUTH HEIRESS** (anonymous). *The Portsmouth Heiress: or, the Generous Refusal*. A Comedy (London: Richard Bassett and W. Davis, 1704). Publication mentioned in *Review of the Affairs of France*, 18 July 1704. No actors' names. No prologue or epilogue. Preface: “As for the Play it self, I dare believe there is something in it will divert the Reader, as it wou’d have done the Audience, had it pass’d the Tryal of the Stage.” The piece was clearly intended for performance. (Copy used: Folger.)

**THE RIVAL BROTHERS.** This anonymous play is known only from publication: *The Rival Brothers: A Tragedy*, Acted at the New Theatre In Little Lincoln’s-Inn Fields; By Her Majesties Servants (London: Ben. Bragg, 1704). Copy used: Readex. No actors' names. No prologue or epilogue. A performance in the spring of 1704 is statistically likelier than in the autumn.

**SIR GIDDY WHIM** (anonymous). *Sir Giddy Whim, or, the Lucky Amour*. A Comedy (London: J. Knapton, 1703). Prologue and Epilogue. No actors’ names. Publication was advertised in the *Post Man* of 22-25 September 1703. Preface: “I have not teiz’d the Actors, not impos’d any thing upon ‘em; much less incurr’d the displeasure of an Audience, by promising ‘em a Diversion that they cou’d no ways meet with in a Performance of this Nature, by so slight a hand. I have not disappointed you of seeing a Good Play, while you
follow'd a New one. The Gallants have not dress'd themselves in vain upon
my account; nor the needy Sinner hazarded her last Melancholy Eighteen
Pence, in hopes of a Supper and half a piece. Others have boldly oppos'd their
own Judgments to the whole Pit, and ventur'd to Print what the most accu-
rate Geniuses have publicly exploded. Admitting this attempt to be even
shorter [sic] than their's, yet you cannot say I have presented you with a
Damn'd Play, how bad soever it is. I have little or nothing to say in vindica-
tion of the Characters or Dialogue, much less of the Plot, as being neither a
Lover nor a Visiter of Plays.

THE STAGE-BEAUX TOSS'D IN A BLANKET (by Tom Brown). The Stage-
Beaux toss'd in a Blanket: or Hypocrisie Alamode; Expos'd in a True Picture
of Jerry ----- [i.e., Jeremy Collier] A Pretending Scourge to the English Stage.
A Comedy. With a Prologue on Occasional Conformity . . . and an Epilogue on
the Reformers Spoken at the Theatre-Royal in Drury-lane (London: J. Nutt,
1704). Dedication to Christopher Rich: “I will not . . . enumerate your Private
Acts of Generosity, or Benefits done to Particulars, tho' I easily cou'd; but I
can't but take notice of those from which the Publick derives a Benefit, I
mean your Management of the Theatre. When under a Pretence of Liberty
there was so great a Defection, that few but Young Players were left with the
Patent, by your Care and under your Wing, they work'd their Way to the
Esteem of the Town, and soon became Powerful Rivals of those whose Estab-
lish'd Reputation theaten'd them to Ruin. You have spar'd no cost for the
Beautifying and Convenience of the Theatre, for the Decoration of the Stage,
and all things else that might improve the Pleasure of the Spectators.” This
piece is a theatre-related satire by Tom Brown, not really a play. The
elaborately footnoted prologue was apparently not meant for delivery. The
“Epilogue upon the Reformers; Spoken by Mr Wilks at the Theatre Royal in
Drury-lane” is reprinted with commentary by Danchin, I, 175-179, as is the
prologue. We have no idea when or with what play Drury Lane used the
epilogue.
September 1703

document. At about this time a biting verse survey of contemporary writers was published, aimed principally at playwrights: Religio Poetæ: or, a Satyr on the Poets (London: Printed in the Year 1703). An anonymous diatribe of a dozen pages, the piece denounces Settle, Gildon, Motteux, Cibber, Durfey, Manning, Dennis, Rowe, and Tate. Farquhar is called a plagiarist, and Southerne is said to have married for money. Particular scorn is reserved for Congreve, adjudged a dismal failure as Dryden's chosen heir. (Copy used: Yale.)

COMMENT. See Document Register, no. 1736.

September

quote. Members of the Drury Lane company performed at Bath during a visit there by Queen Anne in August and September. See late August and 6 October.

Tuesday 21

LIF

Sir Courtly Nice, or, It cannot be [Crowne]. Sir Courtly—Powell. (Daily Courant, 20 September)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Never Acted there before. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing between the Acts.

Monday 27

LIF

Don Carlos Prince of Spain (Written by Mr Otway). Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. A reviv’d Play . . . With variety of Dancing and Singing as express’d in the Bill. Note, That the Tickets that were deliver’d for The Sullen Lovers will be taken this day, it being desir’d by some Ladies of Quality [cf. 5 October].

Tuesday 28

LIF

Sir Mannerly Shallow; or, The Country Wit [Crowne]. Cast not known.

This performance was not advertised in the newspapers. It is known from a playbill quoted in Heraclitus Ridens, 21-25 September (see below).

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Not Acted these five Years. At the new Theatre in Little-Lincolns-Inn Fields, on Tuesday next being the 28th of Sept. Will be Reviv’d a Comedy, Call’d Sir Mannerly Shallow, or The Country Wit; with the last new Epilogue concerning the Life and Morals of the Observer, which was spoke by Mr Powell on the first day of the Injur’d Princess, or the Fatal Wager. Also a Dialogue between Heraclitus Ridens and the Observer, by way of Prologue: Being a farther Illustration on the Character of that Gentleman. Written by the Author of the Epilogue, &c.

CONTEMPORARY COMMENT. The author of Heraclitus Ridens comments grumpily: “What a Plague do these Players mean by this? They are very familiar with us, methinks; but I shall be about their House, I'll tell 'em that, if they have not a Care of Casting their Reflections too Home. . . . ”

COMMENT. The prologue and epilogue for this performance are printed by Danchin with extensive explanation and commentary (I, 149-158). “The Prologue, By Way of Dialogue; Between Heraclitus Ridens, the Observer, and his Country-Man. Spoken by Mr Powel, Mr Booth, and Mr Pack.” “The Epilogue upon the Observer. Spoken by Mr Powell.” They were written by William Pittis, and published separately as The Last New Prologues and Epilogues, Relating to the Life Of the Observer and the Death of the Royal-Oak Lottery, As they were Spoken at the New Theatre in Little Lincoln's Inn Fields; With what was Left-out [printed in italics].
Publish'd in Opposition to some Spurious Copies that have crept Abroad (London: J. Nutt, 1703).

October 1703

Tuesday 5  
**LIF**  
**THE SULLEN LOVERS,** or, The Impertinents (Written by the Ingenious Mr Shadwell late Poet Laureat). Sir Positive At-all—Powell. (*Daily Courant,* 4 October)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Not Acted these Twenty eight Years.... With the Humours of Sir Positive At-all, ... With a new Prologue by way of Elegy on the Death of the Royal Oak Lottery. And an Epilogue on the Life and Character of Maister Observator. The Part of Sir Positive At-all, and the Prologue and Epilogue, to be perform'd by Mr Powell.

**COMMENT.** The prologue is printed by Danchin, I, 159-161, from *The Last New Prologues and Epilogues* (see 28 September). The epilogue was evidently the same one used on 28 September.

Wednesday 6  
**DL**  
**LOVE MAKES A MAN,** or, The Fops Fortune [Cibber]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Her Majesty's Servants of the Theatre Royal being return'd from the Bath, do intend ... to Act ... *Love makes a Man* ... With Singing and Dancing. And whereas the Audiences have been incommoded by the Plays usually beginning too late, the Company of the said Theatre do therefore give notice, that they will constantly begin at five a clock without fail, and continue the same Hour all the Winter.

Thursday 7  
**DL**  
**TUNBRIDGE WALKS,** or, The Yeoman of Kent [Baker]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing. And a *Night Scene* between Scaramouch and Harlequin, to be performed by the Famous Monsieur Surrein [Sorin] and Mr Baxter, who make but a short stay in England. [Notice of 5 p.m. curtain time, as 6 October.]

Friday 8  
**DL**  
**THE PILGRIM** [Vanbrugh, adapting Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With Singing and Dancing by Mrs Campion and others. [Notice of 5 p.m. curtain time as 6 October.]

Saturday 9  
**DL**  
**THE TRUE AND ANCIENT HISTORY OF KING LEAR** [Tate, adapting Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing, by the Devonshire Girl [Mrs Mosse] and Mr Claxton her Master. [Notice of 5 p.m. curtain time as 6 October.]

Monday 11  
**DL**  
**THE SILENT WOMAN** (Written by the Famous Ben. Johnson). Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With Entertainments of Singing and Dancing. [Notice of 5 p.m. curtain time as 6 October.]

Tuesday 12  
**DL**  
**VIRTUE BETRAY'D,** or Anna Bullen [Banks]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With a Comical Entertainment in a Tavern between Scaramouch, Harlequin and Punchannello. [Notice of 5 p.m. curtain time as 6 October.]

**Wednesday 13**

**THE OLD BACHELOR** [Congreve]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing. [Notice of 5 p.m. curtain time as 6 October.]

**Thursday 14**

**THE PILGRIM** [Vanbrugh, adapting Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing. [Notice of 5 p.m. curtain time as 6 October.]

**Friday 15**

**THE ROVER, or, The Banish’d Cavaliers** [Behn]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Mr Hall and Mr Swiny. . . . All the Parts being play’d to the best Advantage. With several Entertainments of Comick Dancing by the Devonshire Girl, Mrs Bicknell, &c.

**ca. mid October**

‡ **MARRY, OR DO WORSE** [William Walker]. Cast not advertised (but see below).

**FIRST EDITION.** *Marry, or do Worse*. A Comedy. As it is now Acted, At the New theatre in Little-Lincoln’s-Inn-Fields, By Her Majesty’s Servants (London: Richard Basset, 1704). Copy used: Readex. No actors’ names. Prologue [spoken] by Mrs Porter. Epilogue. The *Post Man* of 2-4 November 1703 announces the play as “the last new comedy,” “now published.”

Preface: This poor Play has at length peep’d into the World, but to such Disadvantages, that a Bully might venture to Associate himself at the Griffin and Parrot . . . with less danger of being Arrested, than it did of being entirely Damn’d. It was neither supported by a Powerful Party, nor had the Umbrage of a Patron; and, what was worse, the Season! To all these Difficulties there was another added, it was so hem’d in between the Benefits, that it seem’d merely Confin’d to the Limits of a Single Night before hand; not that I have any reason to complain of the Civility of the House, as to the Performing, only the want of Time and Rehearsals.

COMMENT. The date is uncertain. Genest (II, 303) says “from a manuscript observation on my copy it seems to have been acted on Nov. 1 1703.” We suspect, however, that this was a date of purchase rather than a date of performance. The prologue says “New Plays, before new Terms, are scarce in Season” and refers to “this dull Time o’ Year.” The reference to being hemmed in by multiple benefits is surprising for early autumn and cannot be verified for LIF this year, but DL was allowing an abnormally high number of such benefits in October, so very likely LIF was too. A reference in the epilogue (“Now the Campaign Abroad draws near an End, / And harrass’d Troops t’ward Winter Quarters bend”) proves that the play was indeed premièred in the autumn, not late the previous season.

**Saturday 16**

**THE FATAL MARRIAGE, or, The Innocent Adultery** [Souterne]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Mr Baggs. . . . With several Entertainments of Dancing by the Devonshire Girl, Mrs Bicknell, Mr Laferay [La Forest], and Singing by Mr Shaw, particularly a Mad Song call’d *Bess of Bedlam*, set by Mr Henry Purcell.

**Monday 18**

**THE EMPEROR OF THE MOON** [Behn]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing.
Tuesday 19
DL

**THE TRAYTOR,** or, The Tragedy of Amidea [Rivers, adapting Shirley]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Reviv'd. . . . With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Mrs Campion. And several Entertainments of Dancing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruel, being the first time of their Performance this Season.

**COMMENT.** We presume that this is a revival of Rivers' 1692 adaptation of Shirley's play.

Wednesday 20
DL

**LOVES CONTRIVANCE,** or, Le Medicin Malgre luy [Centlivre]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Thursday 21
DL

**OROONOKO** [Southerne]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing by Mrs Campion and others. For her own Benefit. With a Comical Epilogue by Mr Pinkeman.

Friday 22
DL

**THE RELAPSE,** or, Virtue in Danger [Vanbrugh]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Saturday 23
DL

**THE TRAGEDY OF HAMLET, PRINCE OF DENMARK** [Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing by Mrs Campion, and Dancing by Mrs Bicknell. For the Benefit of Mr Wilks.

Saturday 23

**DOCUMENT.** In the *Observator* of 20-23 October are “Remarks on the Prologues and Epilogues at the Play-House,” probably a belated response to swipes at the journal in such pieces the previous July. The piece is little more than the paper’s usual ranting denunciation of the theatres, but it includes a particular complaint about the actors being permitted to call themselves “Her Majesties Servants.”

Monday 25
DL

**TUNBRIDGE-WALKS,** or, The Yeoman of Kent [Baker]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of Several Persons of Quality. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing by Mrs Campion, and Dancing by Mrs Bicknell and the Devonshire Girl.

Monday 25
LIF

**THE WOMAN CAPTAIN,** or, A Userer turn’d Soldier [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Not Acted but once these 16 Years. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing by Mrs Hodgson, Mr Davn [Davis], Mr Cook. Together with variety of Comical Dances between every Act. Beginning positively at Five.

**COMMENT.** This subtitle is not in the original edition of the play.

Tuesday 26
DL

**LOVES LAST SHIFT,** or, The Fool in Fashion [Cibber]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mrs Moore. . . . With Singing by Mrs Campion, and several Entertainments of Dancing by Mrs Bicknell, Mrs Lucas, and the Devonshire Girl.

**COMMENT.** In the *Daily Courant* of 25 October *The Funeral* was advertised for
this day.

**Tuesday 26**

**CONTEMPORARY COMMENT.** The 23-26 October issue of *Heraclitus Ridens* contains a long and rather dull essay (signed “George Powell”) mocking the *Observer’s* shrill opposition to the theatre. The author caustically dismisses charges that the theatre is seditious. By implication, one of the motives for this attack is a proposal “for a Tax of Five Shillings per Head on every one that goes into the Play-House.”

**Wednesday 27**

**THE TRUE AND ANCIENT HISTORY OF KING LEAR AND HIS THREE DAUGHTERS** [Tate, adapting Shakespeare]. King Lear—Mills. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. For the Benefit of Mr Mills. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

**Thursday 28**

**THE CONSTANT COUPLE,** or, A Trip to the Jubilee [Farquhar]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Will. Bullock, the young Jubilee Beau, and his Man Dicky [Henry Norris] . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

**COMMENT.** The phraseology of the ad implies that Bullock took his usual role, Clincher Jun., and that Henry Norris played Dicky.

**Friday 29**

**THE LANCASHIRE WITCHES,** or, Teague O Divelly the Irish Priest [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Entertainment of several Foreigners . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing. With a *Comical Night Scene* between Scaramouch and Harlequin. To be perform’d by the Famous Monsieur Surin [Sorin] and Mr Baxter, being the last time of their Performance during their stay in England. At common Prices.

**Saturday 30**

**SIR COURTLY NICE,** or, It cannot be [Crowne]. Sir Courtly—Cibber. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mr. Cibber . . . . With several proper Entertainments of Singing and Dancing between the Acts.

**Saturday 30**

**REPORT.** The *Observer* of 27-30 October comments: “I have some Play House News to tell you: The great Play-House has Calv’d a Young one in Goodman’s Fields, in the passage by the Ship-Tavern betwixt Prescot and Chambers-Street. . . . This will be a great Ease to the Ladies of Rag-Fair, who are now forc’d to Trudge as far as Lincolns-Inn-Fields to mix themselves with Quality.”

**COMMENT.** Nothing further is known of this city theatre, which was apparently short-lived.

**Saturday 30**

**DOCUMENT.** These are to Certify that I have sworn and Admitted Mrs Elizabeth Barry Mrs Ann Bracegirdle Mr Thomas Betterton and Mr John Verbruggen into the Place and Quality of Comedians in Ordinary to her Majesty to have hold and Enjoy all Rights Piviledges & Advantages thereunto belonging. . . . Jersey. (LC 5/166, p. 151)

**COMMENT.** The small number of comedians so favored may be evidence of Queen Anne’s lack of interest in the theatre.
November 1703

ca. November LIF

‡ THE DIFFERENT WIDOWS: or, Intrigue All-A-Mode [Mary Pix?]. Cast not advertised (but see below).

FIRST EDITION. The Different Widows: or, Intrigue All-A-Mode. A Comedy. As it is Acted at the New Theatre in Little Lincolns-Inn-Fields. By Her Majesty's Servants (London: Henry Playford and Bernard Lintott, [1703]). Copy used: Readex. Publication advertised in the Post Man of 2-4 December. Dramatis Personae: Sir James Bellmont—Powell; Lord Courtall—Lloyd; Careless—Corey; Sir Anthony Loveman—Pack; Dandle—Leigh; Valentine—Booth; Gaylove—Weller; Drael—Knap; Hearty—Trout // Widow Bellmont—Mrs Leigh; Lady Gaylove—Mrs Lawton [i.e., Lawson]; Angelica—Mrs Prince; Lady Courtall—Mrs Willis; Mrs Drael—Mrs Allison; Lady Loveman—Mrs Porter; Mariana—Mrs Bradshaw; Lucy—Mrs Parsons; Harriot—Mrs Fieldhouse. Prologue Spoken by Mr Booth. Epilogue Spoken by Mrs Porter. [The epilogue is missing from the Readex (Yale) copy, but is printed by Danchin, I, 166-167, from the Bodleian copies.]

COMMENT. Performance of this play is known only from publication, but line 54 of the prologue implies that it came on after the start of Michaelmas term. Mr Lloyd is otherwise unknown.

Monday 1 DL

THE FUNERAL, or, Grief a-la-mode [Steele]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mrs Campion, and several Entertainments of comick Dancing by Mr Laferrey [La Forest], Mrs Bicknell, Mrs Lucas, and the Devonshire Girl.

Tuesday 2 DL

THE UNHAPPY FAVOURITE, or, The Earl of Essex [Banks]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mr Leveridge. And several Entertainments of Dancing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruel.

Tuesday 2

DOCUMENT. On this day Congreve wrote a letter to Mrs Trotter about her MS play, The Revolution of Sweden, offering detailed commentary and suggestions, with particular attention to clarity, pathos, and poetic justice. Printed in The Works of Mrs Catharine Cockburn (1751), I, xxii-xxiii, and reprinted in Congreve: Letters and Documents, pp. 212-213.

COMMENT. Trotter's play was not performed until February 1706.

Wednesday 3 DL

VOLPONE, or, The Fox (Written by the Famous Ben. Johnson). Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mr. Leveridge. And several Entertainments of Dancing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruell.

Thursday 4 DL

THE SPANISH FRYAR, or, The Double Discovery [Dryden]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Friday 5 DL

DON JOHN, or, The Libertine Destroy'd [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of comick Dancing by Mr Essex, Mrs Bicknell, Mrs Lucas, and the Devonshire Girl.
Saturday 6

LOVE AND DANGER, or, The Mistaken Jealousie [anonymous; lost?]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Not Acted these Twenty Years [but cf. 8 Nov.]. . . . A Revis’d Tragedy. . . . Beginning at Five a Clock.

COMMENT. We cannot identify this play, which is apparently lost. Whether it was last previously performed in 1682 or 1692 is unclear. See Milhous and Hume, “Lost English Plays,” no. 60.

Monday 8

LOVE AND DANGER, or, The Mistaken Jealousie [anonymous; lost?]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Acted but once these Ten Years [but cf. 6 Nov.]. . . . A Revis’d Tragi-Comedy. . . . With Singing by Mr Leveridge and Mrs Campion, and Danceing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruel.

Tuesday 9

THE ROVER, or, The Banish’d Cavaliers [Behn]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Italian Sonata’s on the Violin by Signior Gasparini, and Danceing by the Devonshire Girl in Imitation of Madamoiselle De Subligny.

Tuesday 9

CONTEMPORARY COMMENT. The writer of Heraclitus Ridens (6-9 November 1703) continues his mockery of the Observer, rebutting the claim “That our Renowned Queen Elizabeth totally Supprese’d Stage-Plays” and showing “that She rather encourag’d the Stage than suppress’d it.” The writer comments that “the New License the Theatre in Lincolns-Inn Fields has had from the Court, is sufficient to shew that Her present Majesty Queen Ann, has no such ill Opinion of it as not to tolerate it.”

COMMENT. No new license for LIF is known until the one granted a year later to Vanbrugh and Congreve. Because LIF operated on no more than a license “at pleasure,” a new license in some form ought to have been requisite after the death of King William. However, no record of one survives.

Wednesday 10

ÆSOP [Vanbrugh]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Forreign Ministers. . . . With several select Entertainments of Vocal and Instrumental Musick. Particularly some new Sonata’s for the Violin lately brought from Rome, Compos’d by the Great Arcangelo Corelli, and perform’d by Signior Gasparini, and others, several of the best Stage Songs by Mr Leveridge and Mrs Campion, with Danceing by her, the Devonshire Girl, and Monsieur Du Ruell.

Thursday 11

THE PILGRIM [Vanbrugh, adapting Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Revis’d, with large Alterations. With several Entertainments of Singing and Comical Danceing.

Friday 12

THE PLAIN DEALER [Wycherley]. The Plain Dealer [Manly]—Griffin. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing.

Saturday 13

THE TRAGEDY OF HAMLET PRINCE OF DENMARK [Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Danceing by Mon-
sieur Du Ruell.

**Monday 15**

**OROONOKO** [Southerne]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality... With Singing by Mr Leveridge. And several Entertainments of Dancing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruell.

**Tuesday 16**

**LOVE MAKES A MAN,** or, The Fops Fortune [Cibber]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Dancing by the Devonshire Girl and others.

**Wednesday 17**

**LOVE AND DANGER,** or, The Mistaken Jealousie [anonymous; lost?]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Acted but twice these Twenty Years... will be presented a Revis’d Tragi-Comedy... With several Entertainments of Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Comical Dancing by Laferry [La Forest], Mrs Bicknell, and Mrs Lucas.

**COMMENT.** On this unidentified play, see 6 November.

**Thursday 18**

**THE OLD BACHELOR** [Congreve]. The Old Batchelour—Griffin. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and variety of Comick Dancing by Mrs Bicknell, Mrs Lucas, and the Devonshire Girl.

**Friday 19**

**THE CONSTANT COUPLE,** or, A Trip to the Jubilee [Farquhar]. Cast not advertised (but see 28 October). *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Entertainment of their Highnesses the Prince and Princess Landgrave of Hesse... With Dancing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruell, Singing by Mr Leveridge and Mrs Campion. And a piece of Musick for the Violin and Flute by Signior Gasperini and Mr Paisible, it being the most Masterly perform’d of any Musick that was ever heard upon the English Stage.

**Saturday 20**

**VENICE PRESERVED,** or, A Plot Discover’d [Otway]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Dancing by Monsieur Du Ruell.

**Monday 22**

**TUNBRIDGE WALKS,** or, The Yeoman of Kent [Baker] Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

**Tuesday 23**

**THE RELAPSE,** or, Virtue in Danger [Vanbrugh]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With Singing by Mr Leveridge and Mrs Campion, and several Comick Dances by Mr LaFerry [La Forest], Mrs Bicknell, and the Devonshire Girl. With a Comical Entertainment between Scaramouch, Harlequin, and Punchannelo.

**Wednesday 24**

**VOLPONE,** or, The Fox (Written by the Famous Ben. Johnson). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

**COMMENT.** In the *Daily Courant* of 23 November *The Empereour of the Moon* was advertised for this day.
Thursday 25 DL
THE EMPEROR OF THE MOON [Behn]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality. And Singing by Mr Mason who never appear’d upon the Stage before.
COMMENT: In the Daily Courant ad of 24 November the notice read “With several extraordinary Scenes and Machines.”

Friday 26 DL
THE FAIR EXAMPLE, or, The Modish Citizen [Estcourt]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing, likewise several Sonatas by Signior Gasperini.
COMMENT: For the original cast, see 10 April 1703. All members of the cast were definitely still with the company save Mrs Verbruggen (who died in childbed at the end of August) and Mrs Powell (probably with the company, but not recorded).

Saturday 27 DL
THE TRAGEDY OF MACBETH [Shakespeare, adapted by Davenant]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. All the Musick being compos’d by Mr Leveridge, wherein he performs his own parts. With several comical Dances. And several Entertainments of Singing by Mr Mason.
COMMENT: This performance, shortly following the Great Storm of 1703, aroused considerable ire among opponents of the theatre. In a pamphlet dated 10 December and published on the 31st, Jeremy Collier denounced this performance: “But Stupidity under that Convulsion was not the worst of our Case: No, that dreadful Hurricane, the Voice of an angry Heaven, and Terrour of Earth and Sea, was it seems a Jest at the Play House: Macbeth with his Lightning and thunder the Entertainment of the Day, and the Mention of Chimnies blown down, clapt by the Audience with an unusual Length of Pleasure and Approbation” (p. 18). See [Jeremy Collier], Mr Collier’s Dissuasive from the play-house; in a letter to a person of quality, occasioned by the late calamity of the tempest (London: Richard Sare, 1703). Arnott and Robinson, no. 294. For another such attack, see 1 January 1704.

Monday 29 DL
RULE A WIFE, AND HAVE A WIFE [Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Some Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, Singing by Mr Leveridge and Mr Mason, and Danceing by the Devonshire Girl and others.

Monday 29 LIF
THE DOUBLE DEALER [Congreve]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Never Acted there but Twice. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . With several Entertainments of Musick between the Acts By Seignor Olsii [Olzi] lately come from Italy.

Monday 29 DOCUMENT. November ye 29 1703. According to the Order of my Lord Chamberlain, I doe hereby give to Mr Betterton, and the Company Six Acting monthes notice to provide a person to act my parts that I may have my discharge according to the honour of my Articles. Witnesse my hand Tho. Doggett. (LC 7/3, fol. 85)

Tuesday 30 DL
CONCERT. At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this present Tuesday being the 30th of November, will be presented an Extraordinary Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick by Subscription; In which Mrs Tofts performs several Songs in Italian and English, accompany’d by the best Masters in
England. With Danceing by Monsieur Labbe and others. None to be admit-
ted into the Pit or Boxes but by the Subscribers Tickets, which are deliver'd
out at White’s Chocolate House in St. James's-street. The Boxes on the
Stage and the Galleries are for the Benefit of the Actors. Beginning exactly
at Five a clock. [Price not stated.] (Daily Courant)
COMMENT: We believe that this is the first performance of the series subse-
quently advertised as “The Subscription Musick” (see season headnote).

December 1703

Wednesday 1
DL
THE LANCASHIRE WITCHES [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Cour-
ant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing and Danceing.
COMMENT: In the Daily Courant of 29 November the premiere of The Lying Lover
had been advertised for this day.

Thursday 2
DL
‡ THE LYING LOVER, or, The Lady's Friendship (Written by the Author of
The Funeral) [Steele]. Cast not advertised (but see below). (Daily Courant)
FIRST EDITION. The Lying Lover: or, the Ladies Friendship. A Comedy. As it is
Acted at the Theatre Royal By Her Majesty's Servants. Written by Mr Steele (Lon-
Captain Griffin; Young Bookwit—Wilks; Lovemore—Mills; Frederick—Toms; Latine
—Cibber; Storm—Pinkeman; Charcoal—Bullock // Penelope—Mrs Rogers; Victoria—
Mrs Oldfield; Betty—Mrs Cox; Lettice—Mrs Lucas.
Dedication: The Design of it is to banish out of Conversation all Entertain-
ment which does not proceed from Simplicity of Mind, Good-nature, Friendship, and Hon-
our.
Preface: I thought ... it would be an honest Ambition to attempt a Comedy,
which might be no improper Entertainment in a Christian Commonwealth. In order
to this, the Spark of this Play is introduc'd with as much Agility and Life, as He
brought with Him from France; and as much Humour as I could bestow upon Him in
England. But he uses the Advantages of a learned Education, a ready Fancy, and a
liberal Fortune, without the Circumspection and good Sense which should always at-
tend the Pleasures of a Gentleman; that is to say, a reasonable Creature.
Thus he makes false Love, gets drunk, and kills his Man; but in the fifth Act
awakes from his Debauch, with the Compunction and Remorse which is suitable to a
Man's finding Himself in a Gaol for the Death of his Friend. ... The Anguish He
there expresses, the the mutual Sorrow between an only Child, and a tender Father
in that Distress, are, perhaps, an Injury to the Rules of Comedy; but I am sure they
are a Justice to those of Morality. ... But Her Most Excellent Majesty has taken the
Stage into Her Consideration; and we may hope, by Her gracious Influence on the
Muses, Wit will recover from its Apostacy; and that by being encourag'd in the Inter-
ests of Virtue, ‘twill strip Vice of the gay Habit in which it has too long appear’d, and
cloath it in its native Dress of Shame, Contempt, and Dishonour.
COMMENT: The advance ad of 1 December calls the play “a new Comedy never
acted before.” Steele received £21 10s. from Lintot for the copyright on 11 June 1703
(Nichols, VIII, 301).

Thursday 2
DOCUMENT. Presentment to the Right Honourable the Lord Chief Justice
Holt [by the Grand Jury of Middlesex]: ... That at a certain Fair called
May Fair ... Divers lewd and disorderly Persons do come and resort to the
said Fair, and there do erect Booths, and Places for the acting of Plays, Interludes, and Drolls . . . and which has often occasion’d Riots, Routs, Bloodshed and other Breaches of her Majesty’s Peace, to the great Terreur and Prejudice of her Majesty’s Subjects, and whereby Murders have insued, as in the particular Cases of [blank] Fuller, and John Cooper late one of the petty Constables in St James’s Parish. . . . We therefore do present, that the keeping the said Fair, and maintaining all such Booths, Houses, and Places . . . greatly tends to the Encouragement of all manner of Vice and Debauchery to the high Dishonour of Almighty God, the Contempt of her Majesty, and the Laws of this Land. (Post Man, 30 November-2 December)

Friday 3
THE LYING LOVER, or, The Lady’s Friendship [Steele]. Cast not advertised (but see 2 December). (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: Never Acted but once.

Saturday 4
THE LYING LOVER, or, The Lady’s Friendship [Steele]. Cast not advertised (but see 2 December). (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: Never Acted but twice.
COMMENT: No author’s benefit was advertised.

Monday 6
THE LYING LOVER, or, The Lady’s Friendship [Steele]. Cast not advertised (but see 2 December). (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: Never Acted but thrice.

Tuesday 7
THE LYING LOVER, or, The Lady’s Friendship [Steele]. Cast not advertised (but see 2 December). (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: Acted but four times.

Wednesday 8
THE LYING LOVER, or, The Lady’s Friendship [Steele]. Cast not advertised (but see 2 December). (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: Being the Sixth Night. For the Benefit of the Author.

Thursday 9
LOVE’S LAST SHIFT, or, The Fool in Fashion [Cibber]. Cast not advertised (but see 2 December). (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Friday 10
THE EARL OF ESSEX, or, The Unhappy Favourite [Banks]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality. . . . With some Entertainments on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, and Dancing by the Devonshire Girl.
COMMENT: The Daily Courant of 9 December announces this performance “With several Dances by the famous Monsieur Du Ruel.”

Saturday 11
TIMON OF ATHENS, or, The Manhater [Shadwell, adapting Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: With the Original Masque, set to Musick by the late Mr Henry Purcell, and Dancing by Monsieur Du Ruel.

Saturday 11
CONCERT. At the Great Room in York-Buildings this present Saturday being the 11th of December, will be perform’d a Consort of Musick intirely new, composed by Mr Keller, and perform’d by the best Hands. With several Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini. And a piece of Musick com-
posed for Flutes, to be perform’d by Mr Paisable and Mr Banister. And a piece for the Hoitboy and Violin by Mr Banister and Mr [Charles?] Smith. With several Songs by Mrs Hodgson and Mr Cook. Beginning at Eight of the Clock. [Price not stated.] (Daily Courant)

Monday 13
DL

THE SILENT WOMAN (Written by the Famous Ben Johnson). Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With some Italian Sonatas by Signior Gasperini, Dancing by the Devonshire Girl, and a comical Entertainment between Scaramouch, Harlaquin and Punchannello.

Tuesday 14
DL

CONCERT. At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane . . . will be perform’d, The Subscription Musick. Wherein Mrs Tofts Sings several Songs in Italian and English. With a new Piece of Vocal and Instrumental Musick never perform’d before, compos’d by Mr Leveridge. And several new Entries and Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur l’Abbe, Monsieur Du Ruell, Monsieur Charrier, Mrs Campion, Mrs Elford, the Devonshire Girl, and others. No Person to be admitted into the Pit or Boxes but by the Subscribers Tickets, which are deliver’d at Mr White’s Chocolate-house. The Boxes on the Stage and the Galleries are for the Benefit of the Actors. The Stage Boxes 7s. 6d. The first Gallery 2s. 6d. The upper Gallery 1s. 6d. To begin about Five a Clock. No Person to stand on the Stage. (Daily Courant)

COMMENT. Mrs Tofts apparently could not perform: see 21 December.

Wednesday 15
DL

THE FUNERAL, or, Grief A-la-mode [Steele]. Cast not advertised (but see 2 December). (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing. And a comical Night Scene between Scaramouch, Harlaquin and Punchanello, in a Tavern.

Thursday 16
DL

THE PILGRIM [Vanbrugh, adapting Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing by Mr Leveridge and Mrs Campion. And Dancing by the famous Monsieur Du Ruell and others.

Friday 17
DL

LOVE MAKES A MAN, or, The Fop’s Fortune [Cibber]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Saturday 18
DL

THE HISTORY AND FALL OF CAIUS MARIUS [Otway]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With some Italian Sonata’s on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Dancing by Monsieur Du Ruell.

COMMENT. The Daily Courant of 17 December announces this performance “at the Desire of several Ladies of Quality.”

Monday 20
DL

THE CONSTANT COUPLE, or, A Trip to the Jubilee [Farquhar]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and several Italian Sonata’s on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, and Dancing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruell, Mrs Campion, and others.
Tuesday 21 DL

**THE TRUE AND ANCIENT HISTORY OF KING LEAR, AND HIS THREE DAUGHTERS** [Tate, adapting Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Request of several Persons of Quality . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Tuesday 21 LIF

**CONCERT.** At the New Theatre in Lincolns-Inn-Fields . . . will be perform’d, *The Subscription Musick*. Wherein Mrs Tofts (who could not Sing last Tuesday by reason of a great Cold she had then) will sing several Songs in Italian and English. With an Entertainment of Vocal and Instrumental Musick never perform’d before, compos’d by Mr Clark. With Dancing by Monsieur l’Abbe, Monsieur Cherrier, Monsieur Du Ruell, Mrs Elford, Miss Evans, &c. *(Daily Courant)*

Wednesday 22 DL

**THE LIBERTINE DESTROY’D** [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Entertainment of several Forreign Ministers . . . With several Italian Sonata’s on the Violin, compos’d by the great Arch-angelo Corelli, perform’d by Signior Gasperini and others. Singing by Mr Leveridge. The *Harlequin Man and Woman* by Mr LaFerry [La Forest] and Mrs Bicknell. And two new Entries by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruell. Being the last time of Acting till after Christmas day.

Both theatres were probably dark from 23 December to 27 December for the usual Christmas recess.

Monday 27 DL

**THE EMPEROR OF THE MOON** [Behn]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With additional Scenes, being the Changes in the Dome, which were Originally us’d in the Opera of *The Virgin Prophetess*. Singing by Mr Mason and Mr Good. And several Entertainments of Dancing by Mr LaFerry, Mrs Bicknell, the Devonshire Girl, and Mr Claxton her Master.

Tuesday 28 DL

**TUNBRIDGE-WALKS, or, The Yeoman of Kent** [Baker]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing and Dancing.

Wednesday 29 DL

**THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA** [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Not acted these Twelve Years . . . All the Parts to be perform’d to the best Advantage. With some Extraordinary Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

COMMENT. The *Daily Courant* ad of the 28th says “Not Acted there [i.e., Drury Lane] these Twelve Years.”

Thursday 30 DL

**THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA** (Written by the Ingenious Mr Shadwell). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Acted there but once these twelve Years . . . All the Parts being play’d to the best Advantage. With several Entertainments of Dancing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruell.

Thursday 30 Windsor

**CONCERT.** This concert is known from an “Epilogue to the Ladies” for the occasion by Arthur Maynwaring, published in *POAS III* (1704), 421-422, where the occasion is said to be a concert given “before the King and Queen of Spain at Windsor” [i.e., before Archduke Charles, the British-supported
claimant to the Spanish throne, and his wife]. The epilogue (which was reused at a public concert at Drury Lane on 4 January) has been reprinted by Snyder and by Danchin (I, 170-172), who explain the circumstances.

The concert is confirmed by Luttrell (V, 375). “A list of the Vocal and Instrumental Music that attended upon the King of Spain at Windsor being neither her Majesties nor the Prince’s Servants” signed by John Eccles is preserved among Privy Purse papers in BL Add. MS 61,420, fol. 13. “Mr Greber 40 guines [sic], Signora Margarita 40, Mrs Tofts 30 guines, Mr Dieupar 30, Mr Leveridge 30, Signor Nicolini Cosimi 30, Signor Nicolini Hyam 30, Signor Gasperini 30.”


Thursday 30


Friday 31

THE EMPEROR OF THE MOON [Behn]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Entertainment of several Forreigners . . . With Entertainments of Singing, And several Dances by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruel, Mrs Campion, the Devonshire Girl, Mr Claxton and others. With An Additional Grotesque Scene, and the Grand Machine, both taken out of the Opera of Dioclesian.

Friday 31

ADVERTISEMENT. Mr Collier’s Disswasive from the Play-House; in a Letter to a Person of Quality, occasioned by the late Calamity of the Tempest. Printed for Richard Sare at Greys-Inn Gate in Holborn. Price 2d. or 12s. per Hundred. (Daily Courant)

COMMENT: This fifteen-page anti-theatrical pamphlet is internally dated 10 December. Arnott and Robinson, no. 294.

January 1704

DOCUMENT. [Monsieur L’Abbé to Sir John Stanley (secretary to the Lord Chamberlain); annotated “1704.”] Monsieur, Il y a trois ans que je me suis engagé a Monsieur Batardon par mon dernier Contract; es trois annees sont expirees du vingtdeuxieme Juin dernier 1703 sans m’avoir propose aucun autre engagement directement ni indirectement; Je Vous prie, Monsieur, de croire que J’ai toutes les raisons du monde de n’etre pas content de la maniere d’agir du Sieur Batardon, à mon égard; J’ai été contraint, pour me faire payer de mon deû, déavoir eû proces avec luy tous les ans, et J’y suis encore actuellement pour le contraindre à me payer plus de Cent soixante guinées qui me sont deûes de reste, et quand même il m’auroit payé, il me fait toûjours perdre trente pieces en habits qu’il m’a fait venir de France, et quinze piees pour mon Apprentif, marche fait avec luy. Je Vous supplie tres humblement d’estre persaudé, Monsieur, qu si j’ai quitté le Sieur Batardon ce n’est ni par caprice ni par mauvaise humeur ni par aucun engagement que j’aye pris avec quelque autre; mais c’est uniquement par un motif d’honneur tout pur, le dit Sieur Batardon m’ayant toûjours manqué de parole, et n’en ayant jamais tenu aucune de celles qu’il m’avoit données devant plusieurs My Lords; de sortes que toutes sortes de mesures et d’engagemens ans finis et rompus avec luy, J’espere de Vous, Monsieur,
la Décharge que Je vous demande; et suis avec tout respect. Monsieur, Votre tres humble et Obeissant Serviteur Labbé. (LC 7/3, fols. 29-30)

COMMENT. So far as scanty records may be depended upon, L’Abbé performed at Subscription Musick concerts in 1703-04, but not with either theatre company. He reappears at Lincoln’s Inn Fields on 12 December 1704.

Saturday 1  
MACBETH [Shakespeare, adapted by Davenant]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. All the Musick (both Vocal and Instrumental) compos’d by Mr Leveridge, and perform’d by him and others. With several Sonata’s on the Violin by Signior Gasperini. Also several Entertainments of Danceing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruel.

Saturday 1  
NEW YEAR’S DAY CELEBRATION. Eccles set an ode for the New Year’s celebration at Court. (See Bucholz, Table 7.5.)

Saturday 1  
CONTEMPORARY COMMENT. The Observator for 29 December 1703-1 January 1703/4 complains that a recent performance of Macbeth [27 November 1703] mocked “the Almighty Power of God” as shown in “the late Dreadful Storm,” and concludes with a short catalogue of “the Lewd and Blasphemous Expressions” used in Vanbrugh’s Provok’d Wife. In the issue of 1-5 January the journal continues its anti-theatrical diatribe, complaining bitterly about the use of the Queen’s coat of arms, name, and authority on playbills, some allegedly for private performances, and cataloging further indecencies in The Provok’d Wife, as well as in The Humour of the Age and Sir Courtly Nice.

Monday 3  
THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. The last reviv’d Comedy. . . . With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Danceing by the Devonshire Girl, &c. And some Italian Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini.

Tuesday 4  
CONCERT. At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane . . . will be perform’d The Subscription Musick. Wherein Mrs Tofts sings several Songs in Italian and English. With several select pieces of Musick (compos’d by the late famous Mr Henry Purcell) taken out of the Operas of The Fairy Queen, King Arthur, Dioclesian, and Bonducka. And an Ode upon the Happy Accession of Her Majesty to the Throne, set to Musick by Mr Daniel Purcell, never perform’d before. Danceing by Monsieur l’Abbe, Monsieur Du Ruell, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Elford, Mrs Campion, the Devonshire Girl, and others. With a new Prologue and Epilogue. No Person to be admitted into the Pit or Boxes but by the Subscribers Tickets, which are deliver’d at Mr White’s Chocolate-house. The Boxes on the Stage are for the Benefit of the Actors. The Stage Boxes 7s. 6d. The First Gallery 2s. 6d. Upper Gallery 1s. 6d. To begin exactly at Six a clock. (Daily Courant)

COMMENT. Publication of the prologue and epilogue was advertised by Tonson in the Daily Courant of 7 January. They are printed by Danchin with extensive explanation of the occasion and its relationship to the court performance on 30 December (I, 170-174). Danchin includes a “Prologue for the Musick, Spoken on Tuesday, January the 4th 1703/4,” the “Epilogue to the Ladies” (by Arthur Maynwaring), and an additional poem “Spoken by the Genius of England.” According to POAS III (1704), pp. 421-422, the speaker of the epilogue on this occasion was Wilks.

In the Folger Library (PR 3291 S67 Cage) is preserved a four-page list of entertainments that appears to have been given to the subscribers (or the audience at
large?) at this performance. Texts of the group songs are printed in full. The items listed are as follows. Act I: From *Bonduca* (song for five Druids, “Hear us, Great Ruguth”); “A Song by Mrs Tofts”; “From the *Fairy-Queen*. Two Women Sing in parts” (“Hark how all Things”); “Another Song by Mrs Tofts”; “A Dance.” Act II: “The Frost Musick: From *King Arthur*” (Cupid, Genius, Chorus: “What ho then Genius”); “A Dance”; “Another Song by Mrs Tofts”; “A Dance.” Act III: “An Ode on the Glorious Beginning of Her Majesty’s Reign. Set to Musick by Mr Daniel Purcell” (“Phœbus, Monarch of the Skies”) [lines assigned to Leveridge, Mrs Lyndsey, Hughs, and Mrs Campion]; “Another Song by Mrs Tofts”; “The Sacrifice: From *King Arthur*” (“Woden, first to thee”); “Grand Dance.”

**Wednesday 5**

**THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA** (Written by the late Ingenious Mr Shadwell). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Acted there but thrice these 12 Years. . . . With several Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini. And Entertainments of Danceing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruell.

**Wednesday 5**

**CONTEMPORARY COMMENT.** A large part of the *Observator* of 1-5 January 1703/4 is devoted to theatre-related complaints. (1) Use of “Her Majesties Coat of Arms” on playbills is denounced, with particular objection to bills left at a coffee house reading “Any Gentlemen or Ladies may have a private Play any time of the Day, giving Notice an Hour before-hand; Perform’d by Ann Wood,” apparently with the Royal coat of arms at the top and “Ann Woods Private Play” at the bottom. (2) A catalogue of “the Blasphemous and Immodest Expressions used” in *The Provok’d Wife, The Humour of the Age*, and *Sir Courtly Nice* is supplied for the horrified edification of readers.

**Thursday 6**

**THE LANCASHIRE WITCHES,** or, Teague O Divelly the Irish Priest [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With Singing and Danceing.

**Friday 7**

**OROONOKO** [Sootherne]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mr Norris, Mr Fairbank and Mr Bickerstaff. . . . With several Italian Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini. And Danceing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruell, Mrs Campion, and others.

**COMMENT.** The *Daily Courant* of 6 January advertised this show “At the Desire of several Persons of Quality” and omitted Norris’s name.

**Saturday 8**

**IBRAHIM, THE 13TH EMPEROR OF THE TURKS** [Pix]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With some Italian Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Danceing by Monsieur Du Ruell.

**Monday 10**

**THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA** (Written by the Ingenious Mr Shadwell). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** The last reviv’d Comedy. . . . All the Parts being play’d to the best Advantage. With Singing and Danceing, and a new Entertainment of Musick compos’d for Flutes, and perform’d by the best Masters.

**Tuesday 11**

**LOVE’S LAST SHIFT,** or, The Fool in Fashion [Cibber]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Sonata’s on the Violin, compos’d by the great Arcangelo Corelli, and perform’d by Signior Gasperini. With several Entertain-
ments of Dancing by the Devonshire Girl, Mr Claxton her Master, and several others. With a Night Scene between Scaramouch, Harlequin, and Punchanello. And Singing by Mr Mason, and Mr Good.

Wednesday 12
THE ROVER, or, The Banish’d Cavaliers [Behn]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and several Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini and Mrs Campion. Likewise several Entertainments of Dancing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruell, Mrs Mayers, and others.

Thursday 13
VIRTUE BETRAY’d, or, Anna Bullen [Banks]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality. . . . With Singing by Mr Leveridge and Mrs Campion. Some Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini. And several Entertainments of Dancing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruell, particularly the Dutch Slipper [i.e., Skipper], and the Scaramouch Dance that he perform’d with great applause last Tuesday.

Thursday 13
¶ ABRA-MULE: or, Love and Empire [Joseph Trapp]. Cast not advertised (but see below). (On the date of première, see below.)
FIRST EDITION. Abra-Mule: or, Love and Empire. A Tragedy. As it is Acted at the New Theatre in Little Lincolns-Inn-Fields. By Her Majesty’s Servants (London: Jacob Tonson, 1704). Copy used: Readex. Dramatis Personæ: Mahomet IV—Betterton; Pyrrhus—Verbruggen; Solyman—Powell; Kister Aga—Bowman; Haly—Freeman; Cuproli—Cory; Mursa—Fieldhouse // Abra-Mule—Mrs Bracegirdle; Zaida—Mrs Porter; Marama—Mrs Leigh. Prologue, Spoken by Mr Betterton. Epilogue, Spoken by Mrs Bracegirdle.
COMMENT. The date of première has been inferred from the dates of the fifth and sixth performances on January 18 and 20, presuming a continuous run. Danchin (I, 183) prints “A Prologue to Abramule spoke by a Gentleman for his diversion at a private Acting in London” (date unknown) from Bodleian MS Rawl. poet 152, fols. 178-179.

Friday 14
THE PILGRIM [Vanbrugh, adapting Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Saturday 15
VENICE PRESERV’d, or, A Plot discover’d [Otway]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality. . . . With several Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, and Dancing by Monsieur Du Ruel and others.

DOCUMENT. Whereas Complaint has been made that notwithstanding ye several Orders lately made for ye regulation of ye Stage, many of ye Old as well as New Plays are still acted without due Care taken to leave out such Expressions as are contrary to Religion & Good Manners. And whereas I am inform’d that this Abuse is in great Measure owing to ye Neglect of both Companies, by not sending Plays to ye Master of ye Revels, to be Licens’d, till all ye Parts are got up & ye Play ready to be acted; by which Means his
Censure & License cannot be so well observed. And also that Prologues, Epilogues, & Songs which are often indecent, are brought upon ye Stage without his License. These are therefore to signify her Majesty's speciall Command that You do not Presume to Act upon the Stage any Play New, or Old, containing Prophane or Indecent Expressions which may give Offence. And that you hereafter bring to ye Master of ye Revels fair Copys to be Licens'd of all Plays, Songs, Prologues, & Epilogues before they be given out in Parts to be study'd, & Acted, which Copys so Licens'd shall be kept safe by you for your Justification. And you are hereby Requir'd not to fail in Oserving these Orders, upon pain of her Majestys High Displeasure and being silenc'd from further Acting. . . . Jersey. [Order from the Lord Chamberlain to both companies of comedians.] (LC 5/153, p. 433)

**Monday 17**

**THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA** [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With Dancing by the Famous Monsieur Du Ruel, Singing by Mr Mason and Mr Good; and an Extraordinary Entertainment of Musick compos'd for Flutes, and perform'd by Mr Paisible, Mr Banister, and others.

**Monday 17**

**DOCUMENT.** Anne R. Whereas We have already given Orders to the Master of Our Revels, and also to Both the Companies of Comedians, Acting in Drury-Lane, and Lincolns-Inn-Fields, to take Special Care, That Nothing be Acted in either of the Theatres contrary to Religion, or Good Manners, upon Pain of Our High Displeasure, and of being Silenc'd from further Acting: And being further desirous to Reform all other Indecencies, and Abuses of the Stage, which have Occasion'd great Disorders, and Justly give Offence: Our Will and Pleasure therefore is, and We do hereby strictly Com- mand, That no Person of what Quality soever, Presume to go Behind the Scenes, or come upon the Stage, either before, or during the Acting of any Play. Than no Woman be Allow'd or Presume to wear a Visard-Mask in either of the Theatres. And that no Person come into either House, without Paying the Prices Establish'd for their Respective Places.

All which Orders We strictly Command all the Managers, Sharers, and Actors of the said Companies, to see exactly Observ'd, and Obey'd. And We Require and Command all Our Constables, and others appointed to Attend the Theatres, to be Aiding and Assisting to them therein. And if any Persons whatsoever shall Disobey this Our Known Pleasure and Command, We shall Proceed against them as Contemners of Our Royal Authority, and Disturbers of the Publick Peace. Given at our Court at St. James's, the 17th Day of January. In the Second Year of our Reign. [Printed in the *London Gazette* of 17-20 January 1703[/04] and in the *Daily Courant* of 24 January, with the explanation that “her Majesty having been pleased to Issue her Royal Commands, for the better Regulation of the Theatres, a Copy Thereof is as follows.”]

**COMMENT.** The original order is in LC 5/153, p. 434.

**Tuesday 18**

**CONCERT.** At the Theatre-Royal . . . will be perform'd *The Subscription Musick*, wherein Mrs Tofts sings several Songs in Italian and English. With several select Pieces of Musick compos'd by the late Famous Mr Henry Purcell. *THE JUDGMENT OF PARIS* [text by Congreve] as it is set to Musick by Mr Weldon, the part of *Pallas* to be perform'd by Mrs Tofts. And a comi-
cal Dialogue Sung originally in the *Island Princess*, by Mr Leveridge and Mr Doggett. Dancing by Monsieur l'Abbe, Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Elford, Mrs Campion, Mrs Mayers, and others. No Person to be admitted into the Pit or Boxes, but by the Subscribers Tickets, which are
deliver’d at Mr White’s Chocolate-house. [Prices not stated.] (Daily Courant)

**Tuesday 18**

**LIF**

**ABRA MULE, or, Love and Empire [Trapp].** Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). (Daily Courant)

*Both theatres were dark on Wednesday 19 January in observance of a General Fast proclaimed by the Queen in the London Gazette of 13-16 December, acknowledging “divine displeasure” in the severe November storms. See also British Library 21.h.4(2).*

**Thursday 20**

**LIF**

**ABRA MULE, or, Love and Empire [Trapp].** Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). (Daily Courant)

**COMMENT.** The Sixth Day of Acting.

**Friday 21**

**DL**

**ÆSOP** [Vanbrugh]. Cast not advertised. To which will be added the last Act of **LE MEDECIN MALGRE LUY** [Centlivre]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing.

**Friday 21**

**LIF**

**ABRA MULE, or, Love and Empire [Trapp].** Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). (Daily Courant)

**Saturday 22**

**DL**

**COMMENT.** The première of *Love the Leveller* was advertised in the Daily Courant for this day, but the performance was evidently deferred. See 26 January. Whether the theatre was dark this night or the company mounted another play we do not know.

**Saturday 22**

**LIF**

**ABRA MULE, or, Love and Empire [Trapp].** Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). (Daily Courant)

**Wednesday 22**

**REPORT.** We hear there were given at all the Churches within the Bills of Mortality, and places adjacent, last Fast-day to the People, several Books of several kinds, setting forth the Horrid, Blasphemous and Abominable Expressions used upon the Stages in our Playhouses, with Dissuasives to all Persons in general from frequenting them; and particular Applications to Parents and others who have the care of Youth, to discourage and restrain their Relations and Friends, from resorting to so dangerous a place. (Post Man, 20-22 January)

**COMMENT.** Advertisements for three such dissuasives were published in the same issue: *A Representation of the Impiety and Immorality of the English Stage; Some Thoughts concerning the Stage, in a Letter to a Lady; and Mr Collier’s Dissuasive from the Play-house, in a Letter to a Person of Quality, occasion’d by the late Calamity of the Tempest.*

**Monday 24**

**DL**

**THE CONSTANT COUPLE, or, A Trip to the Jubilee [Farquhar].** Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With an Entertainment of Musick for Flutes, and several Dances by Monsieur Du Ruel, Mrs Mayers, the Devonshire Girl and others.

**Monday 24**

**LIF**

**ABRA MULE, or, Love and Empire [Trapp].** Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Being the Ninth time of acting it.

Tuesday 25
DL
Mackbeth [Shakespeare, adapted by Davenant]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Entertainment of several Foreign Nobility . . . all the Musick both Vocal and Instrumental, compos’d by Mr Leveridge, and perform’d by him and others. And besides the Musick and Dances belonging to the Play, Signior Gasperini will perform some Italian Sonatas on the Violin, and Dancing by Monsieur Du Ruel.

Tuesday 25
LIF
Abra Mule, or, Love and Empire [Trapp]. Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of the Author. Never acted but once . . . With several Entertainments of Musick, Singing and Dancing between the Acts.

Wednesday 26
DL
§ Love the Leveller, or, The Pretty Purchase [“G.B.”]. Cast not advertised (but see below). (Daily Courant)

FIRST EDITION. Love the Leveller: or, The Pretty Purchase. Acted at the Theatre Royal in Bridges-Street, Covent-Garden. Written by G. B. Gent. (London: E. Rumbal and J. Nutt, 1704). Copy used: Readex. Actors Names: Algernon—Griffin; Andramont—Wilks; Semorin—Mills; Sullamack—Bickerstaff; Dormantle—Thoms; Dewcraft—Williams; Belloon—Kent; Festolin—Pinkethman; Sordico—Johnson; H. Priest—Bullock; Priest—Norris// Princess Dowager—Mrs Knight; Princess Constantia—Mrs Rogers; Dutchess Semorin—Mrs Cox; Sordico’s Wife—Mrs Moore. Prologue, Spoken by Mr Wilks. Epilogue, Spoke by Mr Mills.

The Author to the Reader: When I carry’d this Play to the Theatre, thanks to my Stars, it was not treated with Hostility as an Interloper, but found so favourable a Reception, that I dare boldly say, the best Plays have hardly ever met with a fuller Audience. . . . [Sordico and Festolin] might have been more acceptable, had not the last Correcting hand prov’d so cruel, as instead of playing the skilful Chyrurgeon, in cutting away the corrupted Parts, like a Slaughterer, he lopp’d off whole Limbs, and mangl’d it into a barbarous Deformity. . . . I know moreover that I have been blam’d . . . for shewing too great Irreverence to the Clergy, in the Characters of the Priests. [The author protests his veneration for the clergy, and says] nor could I ever conceive that representing the Cheats of the Priests of Isis, could be a reflection on the Christian Priesthood.

COMMENT. The première was originally advertised for Saturday 22 January. Genest (II, 298) suggests George Bowes as the author. Publication “This day” was advertised in the London Gazette of 24-28 February 1703/4.

Wednesday 26
LIF
The Comical Revenge, or, Love in a Tub [Etherege]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing between the Acts.

Thursday 27
DL
Love the Leveller, or, The Pretty Purchase [“G.B.”]. Cast not advertised (but see 26 January). (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of the Author. Never acted but once . . . With several Entertainments of Musick, Singing and Dancing.

COMMENT. A second-night benefit is highly unusual and implies an ill reception.

Thursday 27
LIF
Timon of Athens, or, The Man-Hater [Shadwell, adapting Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
Friday 28

**DL**

**THE YEOMAN OF KENT** [i.e., *Tunbridge-Walks*] [Baker]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

**COMMENT.** Tilmouth accidentally assigns de l’Epine’s entr’actes of 29 January to this performance.

Friday 28

**LIF**

**ABRA MULE, or, Love and Empire** [Trapp]. Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). *(Daily Courant)*

Saturday 29

**DL**

**VENICE PRESERV’D, or, A Plot Discover’d** [Otway]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With Dancing by Monsieur du Ruell. And (at the Desire of several Persons of Quality) the Famous Signiora Francisci Margarita de l’Epine will perform several new Entertainments of Singing in Italian, the Musick that accompanies her composed by Signior Giacomo Greber, being the first time of her performing at this Theatre.

**COMMENT.** The *Daily Courant* of 28 January says that de l’Epine will be “accompanied on the harpsicord by Signior Jacome Greber.”

Saturday 29

**LIF**

**THE ANATOMIST, or, The Sham-Doctor** [Ravenscroft]. Cast not advertised. A Farce . . . With the Masque of MARS AND VENUS [Motteux and Eccles]. Cast not advertised. And an additional Masque of ÆNAS AND DIDO compos’d by the late Mr Henry Purcell. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality.

Sunday 30

**DOCUMENT.** Directions for the Comedians when they Act at Court. I do hereby Order that her Majestys Comedians and also that the Musick and Dancers appointed to performe before her Majesty at St James on her Birth Night do obey such Orders and directions as they shall receive from Charles Killegrew Esq. Master of the Revells to her Majesty. And Also at all other times when Plays shall be order’d by me to be Acted at Court. . . . Jersey. *(LC 5/153, p. 441)*

Both theatres were dark on Monday 31 January in observance of the annual fast for the martyrdom of King Charles I.

February 1704

Tuesday 1

**DL**

**THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA** (Written by the late Ingenious Mr Shadwell). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the benefit of Will. Pinkeman. . . . All the parts being play’d to the best Advantages. With several Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, and Dancing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruell, Mrs Mayers, &c. And several wonderful and surprizing Entertainments and Performances, which are express’d in the great Bills to day.

Tuesday 1

**LIF**

**CONCERT.** At the New Theatre in Little-Lincolns-Inn-Fields . . . will be perform’d The Subscription Musick, being THE JUDGMENT OF PARIS [libretto by Congreve], compos’d by Mr Welden. With several Songs in Italian and English perform’d by Mrs Tofts. With several other select pieces of Musick compos’d by the late Mr Henry Purcell. And Dancing by Monsieur
l'Abbe, Monsieur du Ruell, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Elford, Mrs Campion, Mrs Mayers, and others. Being the last time of performing The Subscription Musick. (Daily Courant)

COMMENT: Du Ruel and Mrs Mayers are advertised to perform at both theatres this day.

Wednesday 2
DL

LOVE MAKES A MAN, or, The Fops Fortune [Cibber]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: For the Benefit of Mr Wilks. . . . Singing by Mr Leveridge, and several extraordinary Entertainments of Danceing. And a comical Scene between Scaramouch, Harlequin and Punchanello in a Cabaret.

Wednesday 2
LIF

THE COUNTRY WIT, or, Sir Mannerly Shallow [Crowne]. With an Addition of the last new Farce call'd, THE STAGE COACH [Farquhar]. Cast not advertised (but see below). (Daily Courant)

FIRST EDITION. The Stage-Coach. A Farce. As it was Acted at the Theatre in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. By Her Majesties Servants. Written by Mr George Farquhar (Dublin: Printed, and are to be Sold by the Book-sellers, 1704). The editor of Farquhar, Shirley Strum Kenny, accepts the Dublin edition as authoritative because it stems directly from Farquhar. The title page of the first London edition reads: The Stage-Coach A Comedy: As it was Acted at the New Theatre in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. By Her Majesties Servants (London: Benjamin Bragg, 1705). Publication was announced in the Daily Courant of 4 May 1705. The Dublin edition has no prologue or epilogue, and no actors's names. The prologue and epilogue in the 1705 London edition draw, respectively, on Farquhar's epilogue to Oldmixon's The Grove (1700) and the prologue to Thomas Goiffe's Careless Shepherdess (1656). They are printed and analyzed by Danchin, I, 187-190. These pieces may or may not have been used in February 1704: Danchin identifies references that may point to a date later than early May 1704. The opening of the epilogue clearly alludes to earlier, unauthorized performance of Farquhar's farce:

When first this Farce was acted, 'twas unknown
To th' Author, and before 'twas Feathered, flown;
He now consents, that you shou'd see't once more.

For discussion of this earlier production at Drury Lane, see the list of plays not precisely datable for the season of 1700-01. The London edition contains a cast that probably reflects performance at Lincoln's Inn Fields in the spring or summer of 1704. Micher—Freeman; Captain Basil—Booth; Squire Somebody—Dogget; Macahone—Tattnal; Fetch—Pack; Tom Jolt—Trout; Constable—Lee // Isabella—Mrs Prince; Dolly—Mrs Hunt.

In an Epistle Dedicatory to Samuel Bagshaw in the 1705 edition, Farquhar invokes the memory of Ben Jonson at length, and comments, “I resemble him in this, that I am assaulted with the Ignorance of partial and prejudicial Readers, as has sufficiently appeared by a piece I lately publish’t.”

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. And several Entertainments of Danceing.

COMMENT: This is the only record of Mr Tattnal. Danchin (I, 190-192) also prints a “Prologue Spoken upon the Revival of this Comedy at the Theatre in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, some Years since, when acted for the Benefit of the Author. Written by Mr Samuel Philips” and an “Epilogue Spoken by Captain Basil. Written by Mr Philips.” Both were included in the 1718 edition of Farquhar. They cannot be attached to a particular performance date, but Kenny points out that Philips was active in London in 1704 and 1705, and the likelihood is that they were used around that time (Works of George Farquhar, I, 326). A song for this play, “Let's sing of stage coaches,” music by Eccles, sung by Doggett, was published in A Collection of Choicest Songs &
Dialogue, 31 October 1703. See Hunter, no. 5, item 118.

**Wednesday 2**

**SJP**

**Document.** On this day the Lord Chamberlain ordered that “the same Allowance of firing Bread and Wine be deliver’d for the use of her Majesty’s Comedians who are to Act at Court as formerly hath been Accustom’d.” In an order to the Comedians, Musicians, and Dancers dated the same day, Jersey directed that they were to obey the orders of Charles Killigrew, Master of the Revels, whenever they performed at court. (LC 5/153, p. 441)

**Thursday 3**

**DL**

**The Maids Tragedy** [Beaumont and Fletcher]. Amintor—Wilks. (*Daily Courant*)

**Advertisement Details.** At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane... will be reviv’d, *The Maids Tragedy*, (not acted there these 12 Years) with a Masque set to Musick by the late Mr Henry Purcell. And several Entertainments of serious and comick Dancing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruel and others. With a new Prologue. The Part of Amintor to be perform’d by Mr Wilks for his own Benefit.

**Comment.** The advertisement of benefits for Wilks on both 2 and 3 February is extremely odd. We suspect that an error was made in the copy sent to the *Daily Courant*. According to Danchin (i, 186), the new prologue “is apparently not extant.”

**Thursday 3**

**LIF**

**The Tragedy of Valentinian** [Rochester, adapting Fletcher]. Lucina—Mrs Barry. (*Daily Courant*)

**Advertisement Details.** With a new Entertainment of Danceing by Mr Firbank and his Boy.

**Friday 4**

**DL**

**The Maids Tragedy** [Beaumont and Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**Advertisement Details.** Acted there but once these 12 Years... With a Masque set to Musick by the late Mr Henry Purcell, perform’d by Mr Leveridge and others. Dancing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruel and Mrs Mayers. And a piece of Instrumental Musick composed by the great Arcangelo Corelli for a Flute and Violin, perform’d by Signior Gasperini and Mrs [recte Mr?] Paisible.

**Friday 4**

**LIF**

**Sir Courtly Nice, or, It cannot Be** [Crowne]. Cast not advertised (but see 21 September 1703). (*Daily Courant*)

**Advertisement Details.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

**Saturday 5**

**DL**

**The Chances** [Buckingham, adapting Beaumont and Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**Advertisement Details.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality... With Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. And the Famous Signiora Francisca Margareta de l’Epine will perform three Entertainments of Singing in Italian, the Musick that accompanies her compos’d by Signior Giacomo Greber. Being the second time of performing at this Theatre.

**Comment.** Ann Barwick, “lately” the servant of Catherine Tofts, threw oranges and hissed while de l’Epine sang. See 8 February. The *Daily Courant* of 4 February advertises the play, “As newly corrected.”

**Saturday 5**

**LIF**

**Theodosius, or, The Force of Love** [Lee]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**Advertisement Details.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. The last reviv’d Play. With the Original Musical Entertainments. And two new Dances perform’d by Mr Firbank and his Boy.
**Monday 7**

**THE EMPEROR OF THE MOON** [Behn]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Entertainment of several Foreigners lately arriv'd. . . . With the addition of some extraordinary Scenes, *viz.* a Grotesque Scene taken out of an Opera call'd, *Dioclesian*; and the Dome Scene taken out of *The Virgin Prophetess*. With several Entertainments of Singing, and variety of comick Dances.

**Monday 7**

**ALL FOR LOVE** [Dryden]. Cast not reported, but Downes provides the principals: Marc Antony—Betterton; Ventidius—Vantbrugg [Verbruggen]; Dolabella—Wilks; Alexas the Eunuch—Booth // Cleopatra—Mrs Barry; Octavia—Mrs Bracegirdle (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 97).

**CONTEMPORARY COMMENT.** Downes adds: From Candlemas 1704, to the 23d of April 1706. There were 4 Plays commanded to be Acted at Court at St James's, by the Actors of both Houses, viz. First, *All for Love*. . . . All the other parts being exactly done, and the Court very well pleas'd.

**REPORT.** This Evening the Queen's Birthday, which was Yesterday, will be celebrated by the Court with great Splendor; and the Play of *All for Love* will be acted before her Majesty at St. James's by the chief Tragedians of both Theatres. (*Daily Courant*)

**CONTEMPORARY COMMENT.** On Sunday, being the Queens Birth-Day, her Majesty receiv'd the usual Compliments on that occasion and yesterday there was an extraordinary appearance of the Nobility and Gentry of both Sexes at St James's upon the same account. The Play call'd *All for Love*, was Acted in the presence of the Court. There were likewise great rejoicings in the City, People giving great Demonstrations of joy and affection on this occasion. (*Post Man*, 5-8 February)

**CONTEMPORARY COMMENT.** In the *Observator* of 16-19 February 1703/4 is a furious three-column leader, denouncing the impiety and impropriety of the actors performing *All for Love* before the Queen at Court. The piece concludes with the suggestion that though the Master of Revels may merely be serving as "a Licenser of Sin," there are remedies for other parts of the Kingdom: "'Tis in the Power of every Mayor, or other Supreme Magistrate in the Town, to forbid them [players] Acting within their bounds, and every One that is in the least forward to Promote the Reformation of Manners, and suppressing of Vice in the Nation, will take care to do it." In reply, *Heraclitus Ridens* of 19-22 February 1703/4 defends Dryden's play and says angrily that the writer of the *Observator* "do's not so much aim at pulling down the Play-house, as he does at rendring the Queen Odious to the People."

**COMMENT.** The prologue for the occasion by Matthew Prior was published, both as a broadside printed by Tonson (Foxon P1083) and as part of a special four-page program apparently printed for the court performance and preserved in a unique copy in the Beinecke Library at Yale. It was once owned by Narcissus Luttrell, who dated it "10 Feb. 1703/4" and "gratis." The prologue is reprinted with commentary by Danchin, I, 193-194. Lintot advertised the play as newly reprinted in the *Daily Courant* of 7 February.

The court program specifies the entr'acte entertainments. Overture. Prologue "Shine forth ye Plantes with Distinguish'd Light." Symphony. First ACT. Skippers Dance, by Mr De Ruell, and Mrs Mayers. Musick. Second ACT. Dialogue, Sung by Mrs Hudson, and Mr Leveridge ("You say 'tis Love creates the Pain"). Musick. Third ACT. Dance, by Mrs Elford and Mr L'Abbé Musick. Fourth ACT. Song, by Mr Leveridge ("This Poet Sings the Trojan Wars"). Scaramouch Dance by Mr De Ruell. Musick. Fifth ACT. Dance, by Mrs Campion and Mr Charrie [Cherrier]. Dialogue, by Mrs Hudson and Mr Leveridge ("Come Thirsis let's our Voices try"). Chorus. A Grand Spanish Dance by Six. Bucholz adds, "Dance by Issacks," documented in LC 5/153, pp. 440-441 (*Augustan Court*, Table 7.5). In the *Post Man* of 24-26 February 1704 Walsh and Hare advertise "Mr Isaacks new Dances made for her Majesty's Birth-day,
1704. The Tunes by Mr Paisible."

**Tuesday 8**  
**DL**  
**THE TRAGEDY OF HAMLET PRINCE OF DENMARK** [Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . Singing by Mr Leveridge. With some Italian Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini. And several new Entertainments of Dancing, which were performed yesterday before Her Majesty at St. James’s by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and others.

**Tuesday 8**  
**LIF**  
**OEDIPUS KING OF THEBES** [Dryden and Lee]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant, 7 February)*  
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Cave Underhill.

**Tuesday 8**  
**REPORT.** *Ann Barwick* having occasion’d a Disturbance at the Theatre Royal in Drury Lane on Saturday Night last the 5th of February, and being there-upon taken into Custody, Mrs Tofts, in Vindication of her own Innocency sent a Letter to Mr Rich, Master of the said Theatre, which is as followeth.

Sir, I was very much surpriz’d when I was inform’d, that *Ann Barwick*, who was lately my Servant, had committed a Rudeness last night at the Play-house, by throwing of Oranges, and hissing when Mrs l’Epine the Italian Gentlewoman Sung. I hope no one can think that it was in the least with my Privity, as I assure you it was not. I abhor such Practices, and I hope that you will cause her to be prosecuted, that she may be punish’d as she deserves. I am, Sir, your humble Servant Katherine Tofts.

To Christopher Rich, Esq; at the Theatre Royal. Feb. 6. 1703.” *(Daily Courant)*  
COMMENT. Mrs Tofts’ letter was reprinted in the *Daily Courant* of 9 February.

CONTEMPORARY COMMENT. This episode and letter are gleefully and satirically reported at length in *Heraclitus Ridens* of 8-12 February 1703/4: Mrs Ca——ne T—fts, your humble Servant, it is very Civily done to Excuse your self to your Sister Quail Pipe, and C——r R—h Esq; is in the Right of it to Print your Ingenious Epistle, rather than part with his Italian Decoy-Duck, which he has lately paid through the Nose for, in order to draw Fools into his Nets with. . . . Oranges were made use of in order to Pelt Mrs Lepine off the Stage, while she was singing to the Audience that knew not a Syllable of the Matter, out of their Senses. . . . And was such a Trifle as this of Moment enough to be jumbled in among the State Affairs, and the Grand Occurrences of Europe?

**Wednesday 9**  
**DL**  
**THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA** [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With an Eccho to be perform’d by Signior Gasperini and Monsieur du Ruel.

**Wednesday 9**  
**LIF**  
**THE ROVER,** or, *The Banish’d Cavaliers* [Behn]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Dancing.

**Thursday 10**  
**DL**  
**THE HISTORY AND FALL OF CAIUS MARIUS** [Otway]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . Singing by Mr Leveridge. With a new Chaconne composed by Monsieur Cherrier, and perform’d by him and 6 others.
Thursday 10  
**LIF**  
**ABRA-MULE, or, Love and Empire** [Trapp]. Mahomet—Betterton (but see also 13 January). *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . Mr Betterton performing his own part of Mahomet.

Friday 11  
**DL**  
**THE LANCASHIRE WITCHES** [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With singing and a variety of comic Dances.

Friday 11  
**LIF**  
**THE SCORNFUL LADY** [Beaumont and Fletcher]. Savil—Doggett. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With a new Entertainments of Dancing by Mr Fairbank and his Boy. Singing by Mr Cook and Mr Davis. With several other Entertainments of Dancing.

Saturday 12  
**DL**  
**THE UNHAPPY FAVOURITE,** or, *The Earl of Essex* [Banks]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . With Dancing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs Mayers. And three new Entertainments of Singing in Italian by Signiora Francisca Margaretta de l'Epine, the Musick that accompanies her compos'd by Signior Giacomo Greber, being the third time of performance at this Theatre.

Saturday 12  
**LIF**  
**A DUKE AND NO DUKE** [Tate]. Cast not advertised. With the Masque of **ACIS AND GALATEA** [Mottuex and Eccles]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . And the other Musical Entertainments that were perform'd in *The Mad Lover*. The Boxes 5s. Pit 3s. Gallery 2s.

Monday 14  
**DL**  
**THE SILENT WOMAN** (Written by the Famous Ben. Johnson). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With Singing by Mr Leveridge and others, and several Entertainments of Comick Dancing.

Monday 14  
**LIF**  
**JULIUS CAESAR,** with the Death of Brutus and Cassius [Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

Tuesday 15  
**DL**  
**THE MAIDS TRAGEDY** [Beaumont and Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of the Devonshire Girl. . . . The last reviv'd Play. With a Masque set to Musick by the late Mr Henry Purcell. And a Sonata by Signior Gasperini. And a new Entry compos'd by Monsieur Cherrier, and perform'd by him and six others. A new Dance by Mrs Mayers. And also several Dances by the Devonshire Girl, and a young Gentlewoman who never appear'd on the Stage before.

**COMMENT.** A playbill for this performance, printed in red and black, is reproduced in black and white by Ifan Kyrle Fletcher, “British Playbills Before 1718,” *Theatre Notebook*, 17 (1963), no. 13 (plate 5).

Tuesday 15  
**LIF**  
**A DUKE AND NO DUKE** [Tate]. Cast not advertised. With the Masque of **ACIS AND GALATEA** [Mottuex and Eccles]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . And the rest of the Musical Entertainments that were perform'd in *The Mad Lover*. The
Boxes 5s. Pit 3s. Gallery 2s.

**Wednesday 16**

DL

**LOVE’S CONTRIVANCE**, or, Le Medicin Malgre Luy [Centlivre]. Cast not advertised. To which will be added a short Comedy of 2 Acts only, call’d, **THE COMICAL RIVALS**, or, School-Boy [Cibber]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel and others.

**Wednesday 16**

LIF

**THE AMOROUS WIDOW**, or, The Wanton Wife [Betterton]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of comical Dances.

COMMENT: Danchin (I, 195-196) prints an “Epilogue Written by Arthur Maynwaring Esq;” (published by Giles Jacob in 1720) that he believes might have been used on this occasion. Internal evidence suggests that it was spoken by Mrs Brittle (normally Anne Bracegirdle’s role). There is, however, no definite evidence to connect the Maynwaring epilogue with the present performance.

**Wednesday 16**

DOCUMENT. The *Observator* of 12-16 February 1703/4, responding to “Her Majesties Order concerning the Play-House,” published yet another moral denunciation of the theatre, maintaining vehemently that plays are evil in and of themselves, and that therefore the theatre should be suppressed outright, not merely regulated.

**Thursday 17**

DL

**THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA** (Written by the late Ingenious Mr Shadwell). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality . . . all the Parts being acted to the best advantage. With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and several Entertainments of Grotesque Dancing.

**Thursday 17**

LIF


ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. For the Benefit of Mr Boman. . . . And Dancing perform’d by Mr Firbank and his Boy.

**Friday 18**

DL

**IBRAHIM THE 13TH EMPEROR OF THE TURKS** [Pix]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

**Friday 18**

LIF

**DON CAROLO I. PRINCE OF SPAIN** [i.e., Don Carlos] [Otway]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Dancing.

**Saturday 19**

DL

**RULE A WIFE AND HAVE A WIFE** [Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality . . . . With Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. A new Italian Sonata by Signior Gasperini. And the Famous Signioura Francesca Margareta de l’Epine will perform three Entertainments of Singing in Italian, two of which are entirely new. The Music that accompanies her compos’d by Signior Giacomo Greber.
Saturday 19  
LIF  
**Othello, Moor of Venice** [Shakespeare]. Othello—Betterton // Desdemona—Mrs Bracegirdle. (*Daily Courant*)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality, For the Benefit of Mr Dogget... With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing between every Act, some of which were never performed before. And a Dialogue which was Sung before Her Majesty on Her Birth-Day at St. James’s. Likewise other comical Dialogues by Mr Dogget and others.

Monday 21  
DL  
**Timon of Athens** [Shadwell, adapting Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and several Italian Sonatas for the Violin by Signior Gasperini, composed by the Famous Bolonchini [Bononcini].

Monday 21  
LIF  
**The Comical Revenge**, or, Love in a Tub [Etherege]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. The last revived Play. With several Entertainments of Dancing.

Tuesday 22  
DL  
**CONCERT.** At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane... will be presented *The Subscription Musick.* Wherein Mrs Tofts Sings several Songs in Italian and English. With a new Entertainment of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, (after the manner of an Opera) never performed before, call'd, ‡ **BRITAIN’S HAPPINESS** [text by Motteux] the vocal part being composed by Mr Weldon, and the Instrumental by Mr Dienport [Dieupart]. And proper Dances by Monsieur L’Abbe, Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Elford, Mrs Campion, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. (*Daily Courant*)


To the Reader: This Interlude was long since design’d only for an Introduction to an Opera, which, if ever finish’d, may be call’d, The Loves of Europe, every Act shewing the manner of a different Nation, in their Addresses to the Fair Sex. But some Persons of Quality who did not know that Mr Leveridge had set this Part of it to Musick, having engag’d Mr Weldon to put Notes to it; I am oblig’d to let it appear without the rest: there is room indeed in this for Great Musick, but much more for Humour, and every passion in those that were to follow. I could wish they might have appeared all together, but ‘tis the desire of those Persons, to whom I must submit, that this should be performed in the mean time. They will at least have the satisfaction of Hearing fine Music, and observing how the same Words may be admirably set in a different manner, when two Masters exert their Genius, to please and to excel.

This kind of Writing is, as it were, but the Cloath, which the Composer must Embroider; for the Poet must confine his Fancy to such Words and measures, as may give the Musician occasion to display his own; a Task that will scarcely get the Writer any Reputation answerable to the Trouble, except among the few that are sensible of the difficulty.

COMMENT. Motteux’ entertainment (with a text of eight pages) mingles song, dance, and stage effects. When this program was offered at Lincoln’s Inn Fields on 7 March, Leveridge’s music for Britain’s Happiness was used. Weldon’s “Happy Britains, seated here” was published in *Comical Songs* (1706). See Hunter, no. 33, item 94. Leveridge’s “Just coming from sea” was published in *The Bottle Companions* by Walsh, Randall, and Hare on 26 May 1709. See Hunter, no. 56, item 5.
Tuesday 22

A DUKE, AND NO DUKE [Tate]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Tuesday 22

ADVERTISEMENT. Whereas the Play of Mary Queen of Scotland (till now wholly incorrect, and imperfect, and long since Printed, tho' not suffer'd to be Acted) hath been revis'd and amended, with most material and consider-able Alterations both in Title and Substance, and will be suddenly acted, by Her Majesty's Permission, at the Theatre Royal in Drury Lane. All People are desired to take notice, that (to prevent any mistake) it will soon after the Acting thereof, be printed according to the new Copy, and as it is now Licens'd. (Daily Courant)

COMMENT. John Banks' The Island Queens, or the Death of Mary Queen of Scotland was suppressed in 1684 but published at that time. Revived as The Albion Queens, it finally received its première on 6 March 1704, though the revision was not actually published until ca. 1713.

Wednesday 23


ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Wednesday 23

THE WOMAN CAPTAIN, or, The Usurer turn'd Soldier [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Thursday 24

THE HISTORY AND FALL OF CAIUS MARIUS [Otway]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Mrs Rogers. . . . With Singing by Mr Leveridge and others, some Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, and several Entertainments of Serious and Grotesque Danceing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs Mayers and others.

Thursday 24

‡ LIBERTY ASSERTED [Dennis]. Cast not advertised (but see below). (Daily Courant)


Preface: [Dennis devotes some pages to the general moral and social value of tragedy, and then turns to charges “that this was a Play writ purposely to oblige the Whigs,” as well as criticisms of his making hostile reflections on the French.]

Upon the first acting this Tragedy there were not wanting some worthy Persons to make it their Business to report about the Town that it was a Republican Play. Now to give them an Answer to which nothing can be replyed, I have ordered the Last Scene of the Play to be printed, which on the account of Length was left out in Acting, tho’ it yet remains in the Play-house-copy. . . .

[Another] Objection is this, that the Satyr in the Ambassadors Scene is too course for delicate Ears. I knew it very well, and in complaisance to some Gentlemen whom I esteem, I order’d it to be left out after the first Night, but I have printed it with the rest. . . .

But now it will be convenient to say a word concerning the Scenes as they are mark’d in the printed Play, and here, by the word Scene, I do not mean so much the Place, as the Number of Persons who are in Action upon that Place at a time. I have
therefore distinguish’d the Scenes in the following Play, as they have been always
distinguish’d by the Ancients and by the Moderns of other Countries, and by our own
Ben. Johnson. Any Person who comes upon the Place of Action, or leaves it, makes a
different Scene, and that new Scene is mark’d by the Figure of its respective Num-
ber, and the Names of the Persons who are upon the Place of Action. I thought that
agreeable Delusion into which the Reader willingly and gladly enters, for the sake of
his Pleasure, would be both greater and easier if he were not put in mind of a Stage
by Entrances and Exits, which are nothing but Directions that are given to a Play
House Prompter.

The Design of this Play was much improv’d by the Remonstrances which I
receiv’d from my valued Friend Mr Southern, who besides his Zeal to do good to his
Friends, and a noble Sincerity, uncommon among the Writers of this Age, by the ex
tempore Remarks which he made upon my reading this Play to him in a very hasty
manner, shew’d at once so much penetrating Quickness, as well as so much Solidity,
and so much sureness, as could belong to no Man but one who has a thorough
Understanding of Nature, and who has that admirable Talent for touching the
Passions which he has shewn in his Tragedies. I must own the Obligation too which I
have to Mr Betterton for the Hints I received from him, as well as for his excellent
Action.

This Play indeed receiv’d all the Grace and Ornament of Action in most of the
principal Parts, and in all the Womens. But that of Sakia by Mrs Barry was acted so
admirably and inimitably, as that no Stage in Europe can boast of any thing that
comes near to her Performance; or if the Foreign Stages can shew any thing like it,
they are at least prodigiously improv’d since I was upon the Continent. That incom-
parable Actress changing like Nature which she represents, from Passion to Passion,
from Extream to Extream, with piercing Force, and with easie Grace, changes the
Hearts of all who see her with irresistible Pleasure.

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. A new Play never acted before.

COMMENT. The première was postponed from 19 February. Advance notice for
that date was given in the Daily Courant on 14 and 15 February. On 17 February the
Daily Courant reports, “And on this day Sevenight will be acted a new Play call’d,
Liberty Asserted.” Publication was advertised in the Daily Courant on 24 March.

Friday 25
DL

THE PLAIN DEALER [Wycherley]. Cast not advertised (but see 12 November
1703). (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Dancing by Monsieur Cherrier and others. And
also Entertainments of Singing.

Friday 25
LIF

LIBERTY ASSERTED [Dennis]. Cast not advertised (but see 24 February).
(Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Never Acted but once.

Saturday 26
DL

TUNBRIDGE WALKS, or, The Yeoman of Kent [Baker]. Cast not advertised.
(Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . Being
the last time of acting it till after Lent. With Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Mon-
sieur Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. And the Famous Signiora
Francisca Margareta de l’Epine will perform three new Entertainments of Singing
in Italian, the Musick that accompanies her compos’d by Signior Giacomo Greber.

Saturday 26
LIF

LIBERTY ASSERTED [Dennis]. Cast not advertised (but see 24 February).
(Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Never Acted but twice.

COMMENT. No author’s benefit was advertised the third night.
Saturday 26

**DOCUMENT.** On this day the Lord Chamberlain issued an order for “the same Allowance of fire, Bread, and wine [to] be delivered to Mr Shepheard Groom of her Majesties Chamber for the Comedians and Musick who are to practice a Play to be Acted at Court on Monday the 28th of February. And likewise that the same Allowance . . . be delivered for ye Comedians &c. the day they are to Act, besides Candles and Wax mortars for the theatre.” (LC 5/153, p. 445)

**COMMENT.** Proof of a rehearsal _in situ_ is unusual. This notice probably reflects special interest in the joint performance of 28 February.

Monday 28

**THE FATAL MARRIAGE,** or, The Innocent Adultery [Southerne]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing.

Monday 28

**ADVERTISEMENT.** At the New Theatre in Little-Lincolns-Inn-Fields, on Thursday next . . . will be acted _Liberty Asserted_. The Reason of deferring it till then is, This day the Company is commanded to Play at Court, tomorrow is _The Subscription Musick_, and the next day is Ash-Wednesday. (*Daily Courant*)

Monday 28

**SIR SALOMON** [Caryll]. For evidence of performance and the cast, see below.

**COMMENT.** The performance is known from a letter from Elizabeth Coke to Thomas Coke, who adds, “They say the Queen and Prince was both extremely divert-ed with it, there was a great deal of company, but no finery, the Court being in Mourning” (Cowper MS, III, 163; HMC 12th Report, Part II, London, 1888). The occasion is recorded by Downes in a series of court performances: “The Second was, _Sir Solomon, or the Cautious Coxcomb_. . . . The whole being well perform’d, it gave great Satisfaction.” He gives this cast: Sir Solomon—Betterton; Peregrine—Wilks; Young Single—Booth; Sir Arthur Addle—Dogget; Justice Wary—Johnson; Ralph—Pinkethman; Timothy—Underhill // Julia—Mrs Bracegirdle; Betty—Mrs Mountfort (*Roscius Anglicanus*, pp. 97-98). Additional dancing was provided by du Ruel, Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl (see 29 February). This performance drew on performers from both theatres. The occasion of this performance at court was Prince George’s birthday (Bucholz, *Augustan Court*, p. 231).

**COMMENT.** This is Susanna Mountfort’s first recorded appearance, though she is listed in Vanbrugh’s “company plan” a year earlier (see ca. April 1703).

Tuesday 29

**THE TRAGEDY OF MACBETH** [Shakespeare, adapted by Davenant]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . All the Musick, both Vocal and Instrumental, being composed by Mr Leveridge, and perform’d by him and others. With several new Entertainments of Danceing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl, which were perform’d yesterday before Her Majesty at St. James’s.

Tuesday 29

**LIBERTY ASSERTED** [Dennis]. Cast not advertised (but see 24 February). (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** The Reason of its being acted to day is _The Subscription Musick_ which was to be perform’d on this day is deferr’d till another time.
### March 1704

*From 1 March neither company performed on Wednesday or Friday until after Easter. Concerts were permitted at York Buildings.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Play Title</th>
<th>Cast Details</th>
<th>Advertisement Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 2</td>
<td>DL</td>
<td><strong>The Squire of Alsatia</strong> (Written by the late Ingenious Mr Shadwell). Cast not advertised. <em>(Daily Courant)</em></td>
<td>All the Parts being play’d to the best advantage.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Thursday 2</td>
<td>LIF</td>
<td><strong>Liberty Asserted</strong> [Dennis]. Cast not advertised (but see 24 February). <em>(Daily Courant, 1 March)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 4</td>
<td>DL</td>
<td><strong>Love Makes a Man</strong> or, The Fop's Fortune [Cibber]. Cast not advertised. <em>(Daily Courant)</em></td>
<td>At the Desire of several Persons of Quality, . . . Being the last time of Acting it till after Lent. With Danceing by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. And the Famous Signiora Francisca Margareta de l'Epine will perform three new Entertainments of Singing in Italian, the Musick that accompanies her compos’d by Signior Giacomo Greber.</td>
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<td>Saturday 4</td>
<td>LIF</td>
<td><strong>Liberty Asserted</strong> [Dennis]. Cast not advertised. <em>(Daily Courant)</em></td>
<td>For the Benefit of the Author. Being the Sixth time of Acting.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6</td>
<td>DL</td>
<td><strong>The Albion Queens</strong>, or, The Death of Mary Queen of Scotland [John Banks]. Cast not advertised (but see below). <em>(Daily Courant)</em></td>
<td>Never Acted before. . . And by reason of extraordinary Charge in the Decoration of it, the Prices will be rais'd, Boxes 5s. Pit 3s. First Gallery 2s. Upper Gallery 1s. Beginning exactly at half an hour after Five.</td>
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**COMMENT:** The première was postponed from 4 March. Advanced notice for that date was given in the *Daily Courant* on 28 February. The cast printed by Avery from Genest is from the undated edition of ca. 1713, and some of its members cannot have been available at Drury Lane at this time. Keene, Booth, and Mrs Porter did not work at Drury Lane until 1708. See James J. Devlin, “The Dramatis Personae and the Dating of John Banks’s ‘The Albion Queens’,” *Notes and Queries*, 208 (1963), 213-215. For that edition and cast, see 14 March 1713. Assuming that some members of the 1713 cast had held their roles since the première, and working from prompt notes printed in the edition of ca. 1713, Devlin offers the following cast (conjectural, but plausible): Norfolk—Wilks; Cecil—Griffin; Morton—Mills; Davison—Williams; Gifford—Bickerstaff // Queen Mary—Mrs Oldfield; Queen Elizabeth—Mrs Knight. The page Dowglass is undeterminable. A “Prologue and Epilogue To the Last New Play of the Albion Queens, or, the Death of Mary Queen of Scotland, Printed as they were written, but not permitted to be spoken” were published as a broadside by J. Nutt with a 1704 date (Foxon P 1121) and are reprinted by Danchin, I, 200-202. Publication was advertised in the *Daily Courant* on 13 March.

**COMMENT:** Whether an edition was published prior to that of ca. 1713 remains an open question. A notice in the *Daily Courant* of 22 February 1704 says that the play “will be printed according to the new copy,” and the *Flying Post* of 7-9 March 1704 contains a “This Day is Published” notice. We have not, however, actually located such a copy. The British Library catalogues 644.g.3 as “1704,” but this is in fact merely the undated edition of ca. 1713. Danchin (I, 200) reports that the Bodleian
copy is dated 1704 in MS, but Paulina Kewes informs us that Bodleian Mal. 48(1) is again the version of circa 1713.

**COMMENT.** Banks’ play in its original form was published in 1684 as *The Island Queens; or, The Death of Mary, Queen of Scotland* with an explanation on the title page: “Published in Defence . . . occasion’d by its being prohibited the Stage.”

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**Monday 6**

**LIF**

**LIBERTY ASSERTED** [Dennis]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Being the Seventh time of Acting.

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**Tuesday 7**

**DL**

**THE ALBION QUEENS,** or, The Death of Mary Queen of Scotland [Banks].

Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** [Prices as 6 March.]

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**Tuesday 7**

**LIF**

**CONCERT.** At the New Theatre in Little-Lincoln’s-Inn Fields . . . will be perform’d *The Subscription Musick.* Wherein Mrs Tofts Sings several Songs in Italian and English. With a new Entertainment after the manner of an Opera, call’d, **BRITTAIN’S HAPPINESS** [text by Motteux]. As it is compos’d (both Vocal and Instrumental) by Mr Leveridge, and never perform’d before. With proper Dances by Monsieur l’Abbe, Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Elford, Mrs Campion, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. (*Daily Courant*)

**COMMENT.** The same concert (including *Brittain’s Happiness*) was offered at Drury Lane on 22 February, though the ad on that occasion attributes the piece to Weldon and Dieupart. Leveridge apparently reset the text for this performance.

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**Thursday 9**

**DL**

**THE ALBION QUEENS,** or, The Death of Mary Queen of Scotland [Banks].

Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Never Acted but Twice. [Prices as 6 March.]

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**Thursday 9**

**DL**

**LIBERTY ASSERTED** [Dennis]. Cast not advertised (but see 24 February). (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Being the 8th time of Acting.

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**Thursday 9**

**DOCUMENT.** Whereas great Complaints have been made to Her Majesty, of many indecent, prophane and immoral Expressions that are usually spoken by Players and Mountebanks, contrary to Religion and Good Manners. And thereupon Her Majesty has lately given Order to Charles Killigrew Esq; Her Majesty’s Master of the Revels, to take especial care to correct all such Abuses. The said Master of the Revels does therefore hereby require all Stage-Players, Mountebanks, and all other Persons mounting Stages or otherwise, to bring their several Plays, Drolls, Farces, Interludes, Dialogues, Prologues, Epilogues, and other Entertainments, fairly written, to him at his Office in Somerset-house, to be by him perused, corrected and allow’d under his hand, pursuant to Her Majesty’s Commands, upon pain of being proceeded against for Contempt of Her Majesty’s said Order. Whereof all Magistrates are hereby desir’d to take notice, and to be aiding and assisting therein unto the said Master, in pursuing the Ends of Her Majesty’s Royal Intentions for Reformation of Manners. (*Daily Courant*)

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**Saturday 11**

**DL**

**THE ALBION QUEENS,** or, The Death of Mary Queen of Scotland [Banks].

Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Never Acted but Thrice. [Prices as 6 March.]
Monday 13
DL
**THE ALBION QUEENS**, or, The Death of Mary Queen of Scotland [Banks]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. [Prices as 6 March.] And whereas there has been publish'd an Advertisement that it is newly printed. These are to certify that the aforesaid Advertisement is of a wrong Copy printed many Years before the Acting of it, by the Name of *The Island Queens*, wholly incorrect and imperfect; But the alter'd and corrected Copy of it as the same is acted (and quite different both in Title and Substance) will be printed in a little time.

Monday 13
LIF
**THE HUMOROUS LIEUTENANT** [Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of Several Persons of Quality.

Tuesday 14
DL
**CONCERT.** At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane . . . will be presented *The Subscription Musick*. Wherein Mrs Tofts sings several Songs in Italian and English, with several select pieces of Musick composed by the late famous Mr Henry Purcell, and dancing by Monsieur l'Abbe, Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Elford, Mrs Campion, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. *(Daily Courant)*

Thursday 16
DL
**THE ALBION QUEENS**, or, The Death of Mary Queen of Scotland [Banks]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Being the Sixth time of Acting it.

COMMENT. The ad of 14 March (but not those of 15 and 16 March) said “For the Benefit of the Author.”

Thursday 16
LIF
**LIBERTY ASSERTED** [Dennis]. Cast not advertised (but see 24 February). *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Being the Tenth time of Acting it.

Saturday 18
DL
**THE JOVIAL CREW**, or, The Merry Beggars [Brome]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . All the Parts being plaid to the best Advantage. With Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. And the Famous Signiora Francisca Margareta de l'Epine, will perform three new Entertainments of Singing in Italian, the Musick that accompanies her compos'd by Signior Giacomo Greber.

Saturday 18
LIF
**THE SCORNFUL LADY** [Beaumont and Fletcher]. Savil—Doggett. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality.

Monday 20
DL
**THE JOVIAL CREW**, or, The Merry Beggars [Brome]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. All the Parts acted to the best Advantage, with the Beggars Songs, and Dances, proper to the Occasion. Also Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel and Mrs Mayers . . . at common Prices.
**Monday 20**

**LIF**

**ABRA MULE,** or, Love and Empire [Trapp]. Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality.

**Monday 20**

**LIF**

DOCUMENT. In “The Answer of Mr Rich, the Patentees & Adventurers, to a Paper intitled Mrs Oldfield's Complaint” (undated, but after 4 March 1708/9), the patentees state “That Mrs Oldfield the 20th March 1703/4 Sealed Articles with Mr Rich to Act during the terme of five years at his direction for 50s. a week And no Agreement for a Benefit Play.” *(LC 7/3, fol. 175)*

**Tuesday 21**

**DL**

**THE ALBION QUEENS,** or, The Death of Mary Queen of Scotland [Banks]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At common Prices.

**Tuesday 21**

**LIF**

**SIR SOLOMON SINGLE** [Caryll]. Betty – Miss Mountford. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Cave Underhill. . . . A reviv'd Comedy call'd, Sir Solomon Single. *(As it was Acted before Her Majesty at St. James's.)*

COMMENT. Underhill presumably took his usual role, Timothy.

**Thursday 23**

**DL**

**THE PILGRIM** [Vanbrugh, adapting Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. For the Benefit of Mrs Mayers. . . . With Singing by Mr Leveridge and Mrs Lindsey, particularly a Dialogue which was originally perform'd by them in the Opera of The Island Princess. And several Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel and Mrs Mayers. With a Masque set to Musick by the Famous Mr Henry Purcell.

**Thursday 23**

**LIF**

**SIR SOLOMON SINGLE,** or, The Cautious Coxcomb [Caryll]. Betty – Miss Mountford. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . *(As it was Acted before Her Majesty at St. James's.)* . . . With several Entertainments of Dancing by Mr Firbank and his Scholar, Mr Godwin, Mrs Clark, Miss Evans and others. And Singing by Mrs Hodgson.

**Friday 24**

**YB**

**CONCERT.** For the Benefit of Mr Berenclow. A Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, will be perform'd in the Consort-Room in Villiers-street, York-Buildings, on this instant Friday; by Seignior Gasperini, Mr Dean, and others the best Masters. The Instrumental Musick is but lately brought from Italy. To begin at Six a Clock. *(Price not stated.)* *(Daily Courant)*

**Saturday 25**

**DL**

**BARTHOLOMEW-FAIR** (Written by the Famous Ben. Johnson). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . With Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur du Ruell, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. And the Famous Signiora Franciscosa Margareta de l'Epine will perform three new Entertainments of Singing in Italian, the Musick that Accompanies her compos'd by Signior Giacomo Greber.

**Saturday 25**

**LIF**

‡ **LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT** [David Crauford]. Cast not advertised (but see below). *(Daily Courant)*

FIRST EDITION. Love at first Sight. A Comedy, Acted at the New Theatre in Little

To the Reader: To please my Bookseller, who will have me plead something or other in behalf of a distressed Play . . . I give the Reader, rather this short Advertisement than a formal Preface, viz. That I Writ it four Years ago at a vast distance from the Theatre. Since that time the Humour of the Town is chang’d, and mine too perhaps. . . . In short, That Success it had when mangl’d on the Stage, bars not the Reader from Condemning or Acquitting the entire Piece de Novo in his Closet.

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Never Acted before. . . . By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

COMMENT. The play appears to have died after its first night. This was apparently Josias Miller’s first recorded role. Publication was advertised in the Daily Courant on 4 April.

**Monday 27**

**THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA** [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Dancing by Monsieur Cherrier, the Devonshire Girl, and others.

**Monday 27**

**LIBERTY ASSERTED** [Dennis]. Cast not advertised (but see 24 February). (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

**Tuesday 28**

**THE SCHOOL-BOY**, or, The Comical Rivals [Cibber], a short Comedy of two Acts only. Cast not advertised. To which will be added the last Act of a Comedy call’d, **LE MEDICIN MALGRE LUY** [Centlivre]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. For the Benefit of Mrs. Oldfield . . . With several Entertainments of Musick, compos’d by the late Mr Henry Purcell, viz. The Prologue to the Indian Queen. The Sacrifice in King Arthur. The Masque which was Originally perform’d in Timon of Athens. And Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl.

**Tuesday 28**

**SIR SOLOMON SINGLE**, or, The Cautious Coxcomb [Caryll]. Betty—Miss Mountford. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. As it was lately Acted before Her Majesty at St. James’s. With several new Entertainments of Scotch Dances and Songs between each Act. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

**Wednesday 29**

**CONCERT.** For the Benefit of Mr Corbett. In York-Buildings . . . will be perform’d a Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick. Particularly a Sonata for a Flute and a Violin, to be perform’d by Signior Gasperini and Mr Paisable. And likewise a Sonata for two Flutes by Mr Paisable and Mr Banister; the whole being entirely New. Margaretta Gallia mention’d in my former Bills, has since got a Cold, and is very much indispos’d, therefore will not venture to Sing; but in her room Mrs Lindsey, Mrs Hudson [Hodgson], Mr Hughes and Mr Laroone, will perform several pieces of the late Mr Henry Purcell’s. (Daily Courant)

COMMENT. We presume that the “Banister” was the flutist John Banister (b. 1686), not his father, and have indexed accordingly.
Thursday 30
DL

THE SPANISH FRIAR, or, The Double Discovery [Dryden]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Being the last time of acting it this Season. With some Italian Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, and an extraordinary piece of Musick compos'd for a Flute and a Violin perform'd by him and Mr Paisable. Singing by Mr Good. And several Entertainments of Dancing, particularly a new Indian Tambour Dance by the two Devonshire Girls and a little Boy.

COMMENT. The identity of the second “Devonshire Girl” is not known (Biographical Dictionary, X, 335).

Thursday 30
LIF

CONCERT. At the New Theatre in Little-Lincolns-Inns-Fields . . . will be perform'd, The Subscription Musick. Wherein Mrs Tofts Sings several Songs in Italian and English. Singing by Mr Leveridge, Mrs Lindsey, &c. Dancing by Monsieur l'Abbe, Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs. Elford, Mrs Champion, Mrs Mayers, and others. And a new Farce, never acted before, call'd, SQUIRE TRELOOBY [William Congreve, John Vanbrugh, and William Walsh, translating Molière]. Cast not advertised, but see below. With a new Prologue and Epilogue. (Daily Courant)

COMMENT. The translation was not published, but another translator rushed his own version into print, together with what was evidently the cast for this performance. Congreve explains the situation in a letter of 20 May 1704 to Joseph Keally: “The translation you speak of is not altogether mine; for Vanbrugh and Walsh had a part in it. Each did an act of a French farce. Mine, and I believe theirs, was done in two mornings; so there can be no great matter in it. It was a compliment made to the people of quality at their subscription music, without any design to have it acted or printed farther. It made people laugh; and somebody thought it worth his while to translate it again, and print it as [i.e., because?] it was acted; but if you meet such a thing, I assure you it was none of ours; which I don't think will appear again after next week, when our neighbour [Anne Bracegirdle] is to have it acted for her benefit.” (Congreve: Letters and Documents, p. 29)

The other translation Congreve refers to was published within weeks (the preface is dated 19 April) as Monsieur de Pourceaugnac, or Squire Trelooby. Acted at the Subscription Musick at the Theatre Royal in Lincoln’s-Inn-Fields. March 30. 1704. By Select Comedians from both Houses (London: William Davis and Bernard Lintott, 1704). Copy used: Harvard. Publication “This day” was advertised in the Daily Courant of 21 April. The translation is attributed in MS to John Ozell on the title page of the British Library copy. Prologue By Doctor Garth. Epilogue Spoken by Mrs Bracegirdle. The prologue and epilogue printed with the anonymous translation are apparently those used at Lincoln’s Inn Fields on 30 March. They are reprinted by Danchin, I, 207-209. The cast given is as follows. Squire Trelooby—Dogget; Tradewell—Johnson; Julia—Mrs Bracegirdle; Nerina—Mrs Prince; Lovewell—Betterton; Wimble—Cibber; Physician—Pinkeman; Rhubarb—Pack.

The preface to the anonymous translation says: “The Author of the following Sheets has to acquaint the Reader that they contain an entire Translation . . . [of] one of Moliere’s best Pieces, and design’d for the English Stage, had he not been prevented by a Translation of the same Play, done by other Hands, and presented at the New Play-house the 30th of last Month. When I was told the great Names concern’d in the exhibiting of it to so glorious an Assembly, and saw what Choice was made of the Comedians, I was so far from thinking my Time ill spent upon studying this Play, that I presently resolv’d upon the Publication of it. I call this an entire Translation because the other that was play’d was not so . . . there being omitted the long Debate of the two Doctors in the eighth Scene of the first Act; entirely and also the eleventh Scene of the second Act, between Trelooby and the Lawyers. I believe I shall not (for what I have done) incur the Pique of the other Gentlemen, especially when I was assured (after due Inquiry made) that their Translation was not likely to be printed,
tho' there have been great Demands made for it, by the whole Town, who have taken up with wrong Conceptions of it as it was acted; some thinking it was a Party-Play made on purpose to ridicule the whole Body of West-Country Gentlemen, others averring that it was wrote to expose some eminent Doctors of Physick in this Town. . . . At the end of the last Act . . . Tradewell . . . says, C'est un Sortilage qu'il lui donnée, Sure he has giv'n her a Philtre or Love-Potion; whereas in that Translation which was play'd on our Stage, Tradewell is made to say, On my Conscience I believe he has whipt her; alluding to a certain whipping Story now in every Body's Mouth, whether true or no I shan't examine, nor what the Resentments of the Audience were upon it, but the Expression mov'd 'em sufficiently."

In 1734 James Ralph published The Cornish Squire . . . Done from the French by the late Sir John Vanbrugh (London: J. Watts, 1734). Ralph's preface states that the play (recently staged at Drury Lane) was an adaptation of the Congreve-Vanbrugh-Walsh version of Squire Trelooby of 1704. "It was first play'd by Subscription; and, so great were the Expectations from it, that the Pit and Boxes were laid together at Half a Guinea, and the Gallery at a Crown. That, though Sir John Vanbrugh was by many reputed the sole Author of it, yet it was currently reported at the Time of its Representation, that he wrote it in conjunction with Mr Walsh and Mr Congreve: Each of them being suppos'd to have done an Act a piece. How the Publication of this Piece came to be delay'd so long . . . I can mention with no satisfactory Account: Tradition says the Book was taken from the Play-house, after the Run was over, but by whom was never discover'd. . . . This was sent to me by a Gentleman, who has had it in his Library several Years. . . . 'Tis true it had the Disadvantage of being imperfect in some Places, but these Omissions I have endeavour'd to supply in the best manner I could, and have over and above, taken the Liberty to set aside some incidental Jokes, which were merely the growth of the Times, and could not be understood now without a Glossary. Some Inelegancies at the end of the first Act are likewise alter'd, as being judg'd an Offence to Decorum." Ralph's version has significant verbal differences from the one published in 1704. Whether it is actually based on the Congreve-Vanbrugh-Walsh version, and if so, how closely it follows that text, is anyone's guess.

COMMENT. The anonymous translation of 1704 may have been the source for the new “last act” advertised at Queen's on 28 January 1706 and thereafter.

April 1704

Saturday 1
DL

LOVE'S LAST SHIFT, or, The Fool in Fashion [Cibber]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality . . . With Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. And the Famous Signiora Franciska Margarita de l'Epine will perform three new Entertainments of Singing in Italian, the Musick that accompanies her compos'd by Signior Giacomo Greber.

Saturday 1
LIF

THE HUMOROUS LIEUTENANT [Fletcher]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several new Entertainments of Scotch Dances and Songs. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

Saturday 1

DOCUMENT. On this day Charles Killigrew and other shareholders in Drury Lane filed an emended bill of complaint against Sir Thomas Skipwith, et al., for unpaid rent. (P.R.O. C10/299/33)
COMMENT: For details, see Document Register, no. 1765. This bill of complaint continues a suit filed on 30 June 1702. No result ensued.

### Monday 3

**THE FATAL MARRIAGE;** Or, The Innocent Adultery [Southerne]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . Singing by Mr Leveridge; and some Italian Sonata's on the Violin by Seignor Gasperini: With Dancing by Monsieur Du Ruel, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl.

### Monday 3

**ABRA MULE, or, Love and Empire** [Trapp]. Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: At the desire of several Persons of Quality.

### Tuesday 4

**THE TRAGICAL HISTORY OF KING RICHARD THE IIIID** (Written Originally by Shakespear, who in the true and lively Character of Richard, has shewn his most Masterly Strokes of Nature) [adapted by Cibber]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: Not Acted these Three Years. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. For the Benefit of Mr Cibber . . . . With the Famous Battle in Bosworth Field, between him and the Earl of Richmond, afterwards King Henry the Seventh . . . . With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and a Sonata for a Violin and Flute by Seignor Gasperini and Mr Paisible; also Dancing by Monsieur Du Ruel and Mrs Mayers.

COMMENT: Genest (II, 300) plausibly suggests that Cibber acted Richard III.

### Tuesday 4

**THE CAUTIOUS COXCOMB,** or, Sir Solomon Single [Caryll]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: As it was lately perform'd before her Majesty at Court; Together with 3 several New Entertainments of Musick perform'd in Consort by 7 young Men, (upon Hautboys, Flutes, and German Horns) lately brought over by their Master the famous Godfrede Pepusch, Musician in Ordinary to his Majesty the King of Prussia. The Composition being made intirely new for that purpose by his Brother, that Eminent Master, Mr John Christopher Pepusch. By her Majesties Sworn Servants.

### Thursday 6

**THE TRAGEDY OF HAMLET PRINCE OF DENMARK** [Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: At the desire of several Persons of Quality. For the Benefit of Mr Hall and Mr Swiny . . . . With several Entertainments of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, which will be expres'd in the great Bills. And Dancing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruel, and Mrs Mayers. Being the last time but one of Acting till after Easter.

### Thursday 6

**TAMERLANE** [Rowe]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . Together with three several new Entertainments of Musick, perform'd in Consort by seven young Men [as 4 April].

### Saturday 8

**BARTHOLOMEW-FAIR** (Written by the Famous Ben. Johnson). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: At the desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . With Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur Du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs Mayers, and the Devonshire Girl. And the Famous Signiora Francisca Margareta de l'Epine,
will perform three new Entertainments of Singing in Italian, the Musick that accom-
panies her compos’d by Signior Giacomo Greber. Being the last time of Acting till
Easter-Monday.

Saturday 8

THE MAN OF MODE, or, Sir Fopling Flutter [Etherege]. Cast not advertised. With the Masque of AEneas and DidO (by the late Mr Henry Purcell). Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . And several Entertainments of new Scotch Dances. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants. Being the last time of the Companies Acting till Easter-Monday.

Monday 10-Saturday 15 April

PASSION WEEK

Thursday 13

ADVERTISEMENT. Whereas the Master of the Revels has received Infor-
mation, That several Companies of Strolling Actors pretend to have Licen-
ces from Noblemen, and presume under that pretence to avoid the Master
of the Revels his Correcting their Plays, Drolls, Farces, and Interludes,
which being against Her Majesty’s Intentions and Directions to the said
Master: These are to signify, That such Licences are not of any force or
Authority. There are likewise several Mountebanks acting upon Stages,
and Mountebanks on Horseback, Persons that keep Poppets, and others
that make Shew of Monsters and strange Sights of Living Creatures, who
presume to Travel without the said Master of the Revels Licence; of which
all Magistrates are hereby desired to take Notice, and to be Aiding and
Assisting unto the said Master, as well in pursuing the End of Her Ma-
jestys Royal Intentions for Reforming all Indecencies and Abuses of the
Stage, as in not permitting any Plays, Drolls, Farces, Interludes, Mounte-
banks, Poppet Shews, or Shews of Monsters, and Strange Sights of Living
Creatures in their respective Cities or Corporations without Authority from
the said Master of the Revels, from the Office at Somerset House, who upon
notice of any such Actors, Mountebanks, or Shew Keepers, presuming to act
contrary to the Directors abovementioned, will be ready to proceed against
them for their Contempt. (London Gazette, 10-13 April)

Thursday 13

DOCUMENT. On this day Nicola Cosimi received £30 for having played in five
of the subscription concerts that featured Katherine Tofts. See Lowell Lind-
gren, “Nicola Cosimi in London, 1701-1705,” Studi Musicali, 12 (1982), 229-
248.

Monday 17

THE JOVIAL CREW, or, The Merry Beggars [Brome]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With the Original Songs and Dances formerly perform’d therein. Also Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Dancing by the Famous Monsieur du Rueil and Mrs Mayers. And some Italian Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini.

Monday 17

THE CAUTIOUS COXCOMB, or, Sir Solomon Single [Caryll]. Cast not adver-
tised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. As it was Acted before Her Majesty at St. James’s, with several New Entertainments of Scotch Dances, and Songs between each Act. By Her Majesties Sworn Servants.
Tuesday 18
DL
THE LANCASHIRE WITCHES, or, Teague O Devily [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing by Mr Leveridge, Monsieur Cherrier, Mr Laferry, and others.

Tuesday 18
LIF
THE ANATOMIST, or, Sham-Doctor [Ravenscroft]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Musick, never perform’d before by seven young Men on Hautboys, Flutes and German Horns [as 4 April].

Tuesday 18

ADVERTISEMENT. A Representation of the Impiety and Immorality of the English Stage. With Reasons for putting a stop thereto: And some Questions address’d to those who frequent the Play-Houses. The Fourth Edition.” (Daily Courant)

COMMENT. This anonymous 24-page pamphlet consists principally of profane passages selected from recent plays. The first edition was published by John Nutt in 1704 (Arnott and Robinson, no. 330), and he reprinted it three times in quick succession.

Wednesday 19
DL
THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Musick and Dancing, particularly a comical Entertainment between Scaramouch, Harlequin and Punchanello.

Thursday 20
DL
THE 2ND PART OF THE CONQUEST OF GRANADA BY THE SPANIARDS with the Loves of Almanzor and Almahide. (Written by the late famous Mr Dryden). Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality . . . with Singing by Mr Leveridge, Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, and his Wife, and an Extraordinary Entertainment of Musick, compos’d for a Violin and Flute, perform’d by Signior Gasparini, and Mr Paisable. For the Benefit of Mr Mills.

Thursday 20
LIF

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several New Entertainments of Scotch Singing and Dancing, in, and between each Act. By her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

Thursday 20
YB
CONCERT. For the Benefit of Seigniora Maria Margarita Gallia. . . . will be presented a Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, composed by that great Italian Master Seignior Gioseppe Saggion. With several Sonatas with Flutes and Hautboys; and likewise a Sonata with two Flutes, by Mr Paisible and Mr Banister. And several Songs in Italian with Flutes and Hautboys, by Seigniora Maria Margarita Gallia, who never Sung in any publick Consort in England but once. The whole being entirely new composed and accompanied by Seignior Gioseppe Saggion. And likewise several Songs in English, composed by the late famous Mr Henry Purcell. Beginning exactly at Eight a Clock. Tickets may be had at the Door. [Price not stated.] (Daily Courant)

Friday 21

COMMENT. We do not know why both theatres were apparently dark this day. Possibly they were rehearsing the joint performance noted below under 24 April.
Saturday 22 DL

**GREENWICH-PARK** [Mountfort]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. Not Acted these Four Years. . . . with several Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel and Mrs du Ruel. Also Dancing by Monsieur Cherrier, and the Devonshire Girl. And the Famous Signiora Francisca Margareta de l'Epine will perform three Entertainments of Singing in Italian, one of which is entirely new, the Musick that accompanies her compos'd by Signior Giacomo Greber. Being the last time but one of her Singing on the Stage this Season.

Saturday 22 LIF

**SHE WOU'D IF SHE COU'D** [Etherege]. Sir Oliver Cockwood—Doggett. (*Daily Courant*)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . with several Entertainments of Music, never perform'd before, by seven young Men [as 4 April].

Sunday 23

DOCUMENT. On this day Henry, Earl of Kent, was sworn and admitted as Lord Chamberlain. (LC 5/166, p. 164)

CONTEMPORARY COMMENT. The event was reported the next day: "The Queen has appointed the Earl of Kent to be Lord Chamberlain of her Majesty's Household, in the Room of the Earl of Jersey." (*Daily Courant*, 24 April)

Monday 24 SJP

**THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR** [Shakespeare]. Downes, Roscius Anglicanus, p. 98, is the authority for this performance and its cast. "The next [performance at court] was The Merry Wives of Windsor, acted the 23d, of April, the Queens Coronation Day: Sir John Falstaff—Betterton; Sir Hugh—Dogget; Page—Vanbruggen; Ford—Powel; Dr Caius—Pinkethman; Host—Bullock // Mrs Page—Mrs Barry; Mrs Ford—Mrs Bracegirdle; Mrs Ann Page—Mrs Bradshaw.

COMMENT. There has been doubt as to the date (and even the year) of this performance. Downes says “23 April,” but this was a Sunday in 1704. Performance on Monday 23 April 1705 is a possibility: Merry Wives was given at the Queen’s Theatre that day, conceivably as a preliminary to a court performance later in the evening. Performance Tuesday 23 April 1706 is also possible, if (as some authorities speculate) Downes gave the court performances out of order. If, however, Downes merely got the date wrong, performance on Monday 24 April 1704 seems likely. Both theatres were dark that day; a concert was rescheduled “by reason of an Entertainment at the Court”; and the Drury Lane ad for 25 April refers to “Entertainments of Dancing which were perform’d last Night at St James’s” by “Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and Mrs du Ruel.” Bucholz (*Augustan Court*, Table 7.5) points out that the court festivity on this day was in celebration of the anniversary of Queen Anne’s coronation, 23 April (which probably accounts for Downes’ confusion).

Monday 24

ADVERTISEMENT. These are to give Notice, That the Tickets of the Subscription Musick in York-Buildings, deliver’d out for Monday April 24. will serve for Wednesday April 26, by reason of an Entertainment at the Court. (*Daily Courant*)

Tuesday 25 DL

**THE TRAGEDY OF MACBETH** [Shakespeare, adapted by Davenant]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . All the Musick both Vocal and Instrumental compos’d by Mr Leveridge, and perform’d by him and others. Several Sonata’s on the Violin by Signior Gasperini. And the same
Entertainments of Dancing which were perform'd last Night at St. James's before Her Majesty by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and Mrs du Ruel.

Tuesday 25

**ABRA MULE, or, Love and Empire** [Trapp]. Cast not advertised (but see 13 January). *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** By Her Majesties Sworn Servants.

Wednesday 26

**GREENWICH-PARK** [Mountfort]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Acted but once these four Years. . . With Singing by Mr Leveridge, several Sonatas for the Violin by Signior Gasperini, and Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs du Ruel, and the Devonshire Girl.

**COMMENT.** Genest (II, 300) lists *The Committee* at Drury Lane on this day—apparently just an error.

Wednesday 26

**LOVE FOR LOVE** [Congreve]. Ben—Doggett. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several New Entertainments of Scotch Dancing and Singing in and between each Act. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

Wednesday 26

**CONCERT.** A concert this day is implied by the postponement advertised in the *Daily Courant* on Monday 24 April: "The Tickets of the Subscription Musick in York-Buildings . . . will serve for Wednesday April 26.

Thursday 27

**OROONOKO** [Southerne]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur Cherrier, Monsieur la Ferry, Mrs Lucas and the Devonshire Girl.

**COMMENT.** The advance ad in the *Daily Courant* of 25 April specified "Love makes a Man, or the Pop's Fortune. And at the Desire of several Persons of Quality, Mrs Tofts will sing several Songs in Italian and English, being the only time of her performing till Winter."

Thursday 27

**THE TRAGEDY OF OTHELLO, MOOR OF VENICE** [Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised (but see 19 February). *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

Friday 28

**LOVES CONTRIVANCE, or, Le Medicin Malgre Luy** [Centlivre]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of the Author. . . Singing by Mr Leveridge, and Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs du Ruel, and the Devonshire Girl.

**COMMENT.** The author benefit for a play premièred the previous season (see 4 June 1703) is highly unusual. The ad in the *Daily Courant* on the 27th also specifies "And a Masque set to Musick by the late Mr Henry Purcell, which was originally perform'd in *Timon of Athens*. The part of Bacchus to be perform'd by Mr Leveridge, and Cupid by a girl of Eight Years of Age."

Friday 28

**THE MAID IN THE MILL** (written by these Famous Authors, Mr Beaumont and Fletcher) (actually by Fletcher and Rowley). Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** To which will be added, a Scotch Song in Praise of a Highland Laird; and follow'd by a *Grand Dance* of the Laird and his Highland Attendance; with several other *Scotch Dances* and Songs in and between the Acts. We shall begin exactly at 6 a Clock, by reason of the length of the Entertainments. And particular Care is taken, that every thing mention'd in the Bill shall exactly be
perform’d. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

Friday 28
YB

CONCERT. In York-Buildings . . . (at the usual Hour) will be a Consort of Musick, newly compos’d by Mr Keller. The Vocal part to be perform’d by Signiora Maria Gallia; and the Instrumental part by Mr Paisible, Signior Gasperini, Mr la Tour, Mr Banister, and other Masters. For the Benefit of John Banister, Junior. (Daily Courant)

Saturday 29
DL

THE COMMITTEE [Howard]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. Not Acted these Four Years . . . With Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and the Devonshire Girl. And the Famous Signiora Francisca Margarita de l'Epine, will perform several Entertainments of Singing in Italian, of the best Songs she hath Sung in England: The Musick that accompanies her compos’d by Signior Giacomo Greber, Being the last time of her Singing on the Stage this Summer. For her own Benefit. Boxes 6s. Pit 4s. First Gallery 2s. 6d. Box in the Upper Gallery 1s. 6d.

Saturday 29
LIF

THE SPANISH FRYAR [Dryden]. Gomez—Doggett. To which will be added the Farce call’d the STAGE COACH [Farquhar]. Cast not advertised (but see 2 February). (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing, viz. The Mad Song in Don Quixot by Mr Boman, set by Mr Henry Purcell; singing by Mrs Hodgson, a Scotch Song by Mrs Willis in Imitation of an Old Woman, several Songs by Mr Davis and Mr Cook. Also with variety of Dancing between the Acts. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

May 1704

Monday 1
LIF

THE LIBERTINE DESTROY'D [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With proper Musick and Dances. To begin exactly at half an hour after Five, and not to dismiss tho' the Audience should be small. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

early May
MF

ENTertainMENTS. At Mr Finley and Mrs Barnes's Booth, during the Time of May-Fair, will be seen a compleat Company of near Twenty of the best Rope-Dancers, Vaulters and Tumblers in Europe, who are all excellent in their several Performances, and do such wonderful and surprizing things as the whole World cannot parallel; where Finley, who gave that extraordinary Satisfaction before Charles III, King of Spain, on board the Royal Katherine, performs several new and diverting Entertainments, where the Lady Mary likewise shews such Additions to her former admirable Perfections, as render her the wonder of the whole World. (Daily Courant, 27 April)

COMMENT. After 1 May there are no further theatre ads for two weeks. We deduce that both theatres closed for May Fair and did not reopen until the 18th. Some of their personnel were definitely involved in fair activities. On 4 May, for example, the Daily Courant advertises that Mrs Boman of Lincoln's Inn Fields will raffle silver toys at a booth—something she and her sister also did at Bartholomew Fair (see the Daily Courant, 24 August). Avery enters a performance of Don John; or, The Libertine Destroyed for 9 May,
noting that Genest, his source, appears simply to have assigned the LIF performance of 1 May to the wrong day.

Monday 1

ADVERTISEMENT. In Brookfield Market-place at the East corner of Hide-park, is a Fair to be kept for the space of Sixteen Days, beginning the First of May: The first three days for Live Cattle and Leather, with the same Entertainment as at Bartholomew-Fair, where there are Shops to be Lett ready built, for all manner of Tradesmen that usually keep Fairs; and so to continue yearly at the same Time and place: being a Free Fair, and no Person to be arrested or molested during the Time of this Fair, by Virtue of Pye-power-Court. And in Mr Pinkeman's Droll-Booth will be perform'd several Entertainments which will be expres'd at large upon the Bills; especially one very surprizing, that the whole World never yet produc'd the like, viz. He speaks an Epilogue upon an Elephant between Nine and Ten Foot high, arriv'd from Guinea, led upon the Stage by six Blacks. The Booth is easily known by the Picture of the Elephant and Mr Pinkeman sitting in state on his back on the outside of his Booth. Any body that wants Ground for Shops or Booths may hire it of Mr Pinkeman, enquire at the Bullhead in Brookfield-market alias May-Fair. (Daily Courant, 25 April)

COMMENT. This is the sort of entrepreneureal enterprise that made Pinkethman an exceptionally wealthy actor. Downes comments of him in 1708, “He's the darling of Fortunatus, he has gain'd more in Theatres and Fairs in Twelve Years, than those that have Tugg'd at the Oar of Acting these 50.” (Roscius Anglicanus, p. 108) Danchin (I, 211) reports the epilogue “apparently lost.”

Monday 8

DOCUMENT. On this day Vanbrugh and the Duke of Newcastle signed a formal covenant in which for 100 guineas’ subscription toward the building of the Haymarket Theatre. Newcastle is granted free admission to all plays, operas, and concerts for his life, Vanbrugh guaranteeing to reserve this privilege in the event that he rents, sells, or mortgages the theatre. (British Library, Cavendish Loan 29/237, fol. 71) The Duke’s first payment, 25 guineas, is acknowledged on the verso, dated 9 May.

COMMENT. For analysis, see Milhous, “New Light on Vanbrugh’s Haymarket Theatre.” For other payments from Vanbrugh’s subscribers, see Document Register, nos. 1771, 1779, and 1796.

Monday 15

ADVERTISEMENT. Richmond Wells will be open’d on Monday the 15th of May next, where the Musick will attend Mondays and Thursdays as formerly. (Post Man, 9-11 May)

Wednesday 17

CONCERT. This is to give notice, that in York Building . . . at the desire of several Persons of Quality, will be perform’d a Consort of Musick, in which, Signora Transisca [i.e., Francesca] Margarita de L’epine will perform some Eng[lish] Songs, together with her best Italian Songs, she sung in England, being the last time of her Performance this Season. Tickets may be had at Mr Grebers in Suffolk street, at the same Musick room, at 5s. per Ticket, beginning exactly at 8 a Clock. (Post Man, 13-16 May)

Thursday 18

THE UNHAPPY FAVOURITE, or, The Earl of Essex [Banks]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With Singing by Mr Leveridge, with several Italian Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, and several Entertainments of Danceing by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, Mrs du Ruel, and the Devonshire Girl.
**Thursday 18**

**LIF**

**THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR** [Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*, 15 May)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mr Betterton... As it was perform'd before Her Majesty at St. James's. With an Addition of several Entertainments of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, which will be express'd in the large Bills. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

**Thursday 18**

**YB**

**CONCERT.** In York Buildings... will be perform'd, a new Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, by the best Masters; the Vocal Part by Signior Gioseppe Olizi, who sings several Italian Songs with the Trumpet and other Instruments, accompany'd by Mr Duparry [Dieupart]. Likewise several Sonatas for a Flute and Violin, by Signior Gasperini and Mr Paisable, and a Sonata for two Flutes by Mr Paisable and Mr Banister. With variety of other Sonatas for the Violin, compos'd by Mr Corbett. For the Benefit of Signior Gioseppe Olizi. (*Daily Courant*)

**Friday 19**

**DL**

**TUNBRIDGE-WALKS, or, The Yeoman of Kent** [Baker]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With some Italian Sonatas on the Violin by Signior Gasperini, and several Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel and others.

**Saturday 20**

**DL**

**THE COMMITTEE** [Howard]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several extraordinary Entertainments of Musick and Dancing.

**Saturday 20**

**LIF**

**ALL FOR LOVE, or, The World well lost** [Dryden]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mrs Barry... As it was perform'd before Her Majesty at St. James's. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

**Tuesday 23**

**LIF**

**SQUIRE TRELOOBY** [Congreve, Vanbrugh, and Walsh]. A new Farce. Cast not advertised (but see 30 March). (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mrs Bracegirdle... as it was perform'd by Subscription before the Nobility. To which will be add'd an Entertainment of new Musick Vocal and Instrumental, that was perform'd before Her Majesty on her Birth-day. With variety of Singing and Dancing. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

**Thursday 25**

**DL**

**THE CONSTANT COUPLE, or, A Trip to the Jubilee** [Farquhar]. Alderman Smuggler—Johnson (and see also 28 October 1703). (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** The last time of Acting it this Season... With several Entertainments of Singing by Mr Leveridge, particularly a Song compos'd by the late Mr Henry Purcell, beginning, From Rosy Bowers, &c. And Dancing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and the Devonshire Girl. And other Entertainments which will be express'd in the Bills. The Part of Alderman Smuggler to be perform'd by Mr Johnson, For his own Benefit.

**Saturday 27**

**DL**

**THE LIBERTINE DESTROY'D** [Shadwell]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality... With the two Masques of Musick which were originally perform'd in the Play compos'd by the late famous Mr Henry Purcell; with Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and the Devonshire Girl.
Tuesday 30

DOCUMENT. On this day Sir Edward Smith, et al., filed suit against Rich, Skipwith, and practically everyone else connected with the London theatre, claiming that the patentees had conspired to falsify their books and hide their profits ever since the time of the actors’ rebellion of December 1694. (P.R.O. C8/599/74) The suit was actively prosecuted until 1709, but reached no conclusion.

COMMENT: For a list of known documentation on this suit, see Document Register, no. 1772.

Wednesday 31

THE COMICAL REVENGE, or, Love in a Tub (Written by the late Sir George Etheridge). Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant) ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: For the Benefit of Mrs Knight. Not Acted there these six Years. . . . All the Parts play’d to the best Advantage. With several Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier and others. And at the Desire of some Persons of Quality, the Famous Signiora Francisca Margareta de l’Epine will perform several Entertainments of Singing in Italian, being the best Songs she has Sung in England, the Musick that accompanies her compos’d by Signior Giacomo Greber; she also sings an English Song of the late Mr Henry Purcell’s.

June 1704

Thursday 1

LOVE FOR LOVE [Congreve]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant) ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: For the Benefit of Mrs Boman. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . With a new Prologue: And several new Songs by Mrs Hodgson, in particular, a New Song by way of Ballad, perform’d by Mr Boman, call’d, the Misses Lamentation for want of their Visard Masks in the Play-house. With Variety of other Entertainments of Dancing. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

COMMENT: The new prologue apparently does not survive.

Thursday 1

CONCERT. This is to give Notice, That at the Desire of several Persons of Quality, this present Thursday being the first of June, at Chelsea College-Hall, will be perform’d a great Consort of Musick by all the best Masters, together with the seven young Hautboys lately come over from Germany, who will perform several Entertainments on the Hautboys, Flutes, and Hunting-Horns, to great Admiration. Tickets may be had at Thomas’s Coffee-house in Covent-Garden, at the White Chocolate-house in St. James’s-street, at Paris Coffee-house in Suffolk-street near Charing-Cross, and at the Black-a-moors Head in Shandois-street near Covent-Garden. And this is to give Notice, that all the Tickets deliver’d out for Somerset-Garden for Tuesday the 30th of May, will serve on this occasion the place being alter’d. Beginning exactly at six a Clock. Price 5s. a Ticket. (Daily Courant)

Thursday 1

ADVERTISEMENT. Hampstead Wells. These are to acquaint all Persons that have occasion to Drink the said Waters, that the said Wells will be open’d on Thursday next the first of June. Accommodation for all Water-drinkers of both Sexes[, and very good Musick for Dancing, &c. will be there on Monday and Tuesday in the Holiday-Week, and every Monday following during the Season. (Daily Courant, 27 May)

Monday 5

THE MISER (Written by the Author of the Squire of Alsatia) [Shadwell]. Timothy Squeeze—Bullock. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Will. Bullock... With Entertainments of Dancing by Monsieur du Ruell. And Mr Clinch of Barnet will perform these several Performances, first an Organ with three Voices, then the Double Curtell, the Flute, the Bells, the Huntsman, the Horn, and Pack of Dogs, all with his Mouth; and an old Woman of Fourscore Years of age nursing her Grand-Child; all which he does open on the Stage. Next a Gentleman will perform several Mimick Entertainments on the Ladder, first he stands on the top-round with a Bottle in one hand and a Glass in the other, and drinks a Health; then plays several Tunes on the Violin, with fifteen other surprising Performances which no Man but himself can do. And Will. Pinkeman will dance the *Miller's Dance*, and speak a comical joking Epilogue on an Ass. Beginning exactly at five a Clock by reason of the length of the Entertainments. At common Prices.

COMMENT. Danchin (I, 211) speculates that the old "Haines epilogue" may have been used.

Tuesday 6
LIF

**SQUIRE TRELOOBY** [Congreve, Vanbrugh, and Walsh]. Cast not advertised (but see 30 March). (*Daily Courant*)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. All Tickets given out for the Benefit of Mrs Lee, dated for the 30th of May, will be receiv'd at this Play. . . . As it was acted by Subscription before the Nobility. It being the only time of performing it till Winter. To which will be added, an Entertainment of new Musick, Vocal and Instrumental, that was perform'd before Her Majesty on Her Birth-day. With the Four Seasons [from Act IV of *The Fairy Queen*], by Mr Henry Purcell, and Danceing proper to them. By Her Majesty's Servants.

Wednesday 7
DL

**OROONOKO** [Southerne]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Mrs Moore. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing by the best Performers, viz. A Song by Mr Leveridge, beginning, Let the Dreadful Engines [by Henry Purcell]. And a Dance by Monsieur du Ruell and Mrs du Ruell, call'd, *A Country Frenchman and his Wife*. And *the Dutch Skipper* by the same Persons. And Mr Clinch of Barnet will perform all his Diverting Entertainments.

Wednesday 7
CC

**CONCERT.** At the Desire of several Persons of Quality, At Chelsea College, this present Wednesday being the 7th of June, will be perform'd a Great Consort of Musick, in which the Famous Signiora Francisca Margarita de l'Epine, will sing several English Songs of Mr Henry Purcell's, together with her best Italian Songs she hath Sung in England; accompany'd and compos'd by Signior Giacomo Greber. Tickets may be had at Tom's Coffee-house, and at Paris Coffee-house in Suffolk-street; at the Temple Coffee-house in Fleet-street, Covent-Garden; or at Mr Greber's in Suffolk-street; at 5s. per Ticket. Beginning exactly at Six a Clock. (*Daily Courant*)

Thursday 8
LIF

**CÆSAR BORGIA, SON OF POPE ALEXANDER VI** [Lee]. Cæsar Borgia—Verbruggen. (*Daily Courant*)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Mr Lee [Francis Leigh]. . . . The Part of Borgia acted by Mr Verbruggen. And all the rest of the Parts to the best Advantage. To which will be added, several Entertainments of Singing by Mrs Hodgson, with a Two-part Song by Mr Cook and Mr Davis; particularly an Indian Trumpet-Song perform'd by Mr Davis. Likewise Mrs Willis will Sing the Song in Imitation of an Old Woman, together with an Irish Whim by her. As also a new Set of Aires for the Trumpet, Hautboys and Violins, compos'd by Mr Corbett. And several Entertainments of Danceing by Miss Evans, Mrs Clark, Mr Firbank and his Scholar, and suitable Decorations. Beginning at 5 a Clock, by reason of the length of the Enter-
tainments. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

**Friday 9 DL**

**PSYCHE**, or, Love’s Mistress [Shadwell]. Pan—Leveridge; Vulcan—Leveridge; Pluto—Leveridge; Apollo—Leveridge. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mr Mills. Not Acted these Six Years. . . . With all the Musick, Vocal and Instrumental, compos’d by the Famous Mr Matthew Lock, in which Mr Leveridge performs the chief Characters, as Pan, Vulcan, Pluto and Apollo. And all New Dances proper to the Occasion, particularly an *Arbour Dance* in Imitation of the Original, in which Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and Monsieur Laforrest, with several other Masters, perform. With all the Scenes and Flyings as they were formerly represented. This being the first Performance of an Opera this Year.

**Tuesday 13 DL**

**THE RIVAL QUEENS**, or, The Death of Alexander the Great [Lee]. Alexander—Wilks; Clitus—Griffin. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With some of the best Songs compos’d by the late Mr Henry Purcell, and perform’d by Mr Leveridge. Also several new Entertainments of Vocal and Instrumental Musick Essential to the Play. With Danceing by Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and others. The part of Alexander to be perform’d by Mr Wilks for his own Benefit, Being the first time of his performance thereof in England; and the part of Clitus by Captain Griffin.

**COMMENT.** The advertisement of a role not previously played by Wilks in London is highly unusual. Cf. 15 June.

**Thursday 15 DL**

**KING AND NO KING** [Beaumont and Fletcher]. King and no King [i.e., Arbaces]—Wilks. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Not Acted there these several Years. For the Benefit of Captain Griffin. . . . With Songs by Mr Leveridge, and Danceing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs du Ruel, and Monsieur Cherrier. Particularly a Dance between a *French Peasant and his Wife*. The Part of King and no King to be perform’d by Mr Wilks. Being the first time of his Performance [in this role] since his Arrival in England. Boxes 5s. Pit 3s. First Gallery 2s. Upper Gallery 1s.

**Saturday 17 DL**

**VOLPONE, or, The Fox** [Jonson]. Volpone—Powell; Mosca—Wilks. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mr Powell. . . . With a New Prologue to the Town. And several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing, which will be express’d in the Great Bills. Note, That the Tickets given out for Tuesday in last Whitsun-Week at the New Theatre in Lincolns-Inn-Fields, for the Benefit of Mr Powell, will be taken for this Play at the Theatre Royal. At common Prices.

**Monday 19 DL**

**THE TEMPEST, or, The Inchanted Island** [Dryden, Davenant, and Shadwell (?) adapting Shakespeare]. Prospero—Powell. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Not Acted these Three Years. For the Benefit of Mrs Rogers. . . . With the Original Musick, perform’d by Mr Leveridge and others. With Danceing by Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier and others. The part of Prosper[o] acted by Mr Powell, and all the rest of the parts to be perform’d to the best advantage.

**COMMENT.** Assuming that Jane Rogers performed in her own benefit, she probably played Miranda (or possibly Dorinda).

**Monday 19**

**DOCUMENT.** On this day Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, signed two warrants for payment from the Privy Purse for three plays acted at court by performers from both companies, authorizing £50 for Rich’s company and
June, 1704  #  SEASON 1703-1704  171

£75 for Betterton’s. Mary Betterton collected for her husband on 7 July; John Hall and Christopher Rich collected on 13 July. British Library Add. MS 61,420, fols. 15-16.

COMMENT: The performances at court were given on 7 and 28 February and 24 (?) April 1704. The rate was more than double the £20 customary in earlier reigns.

Wednesday 21

THE FOND HUSBAND, or, The Plotting Sisters [Durfe]. Rashly—Powell. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Mr Hall and Mr Swiny. Not Acted these Five Years. . . . All the Parts being play’d to the best Advantage. . . . Danceing by Monsieur du Ruel and Mrs du Ruel. And the Cyclops Dance which was perform’d in the Opera of Psyche, in which Monsieur Cherrier perform’d the Part of Vulcan with great Applause. And at the Desire of several Persons of Quality, the famous Signiora Francisca Margarita de l’Epine will perform several Entertainments of Singing in Italian and English, particularly a Song set by the late Mr Henry Purcell, beginning, O lead me to some peaceful Gloom, &c.

Wednesday 21

DOCUMENT. On this date Thomas Holford brought suit against John Vanbrugh, seeking to void an agreement of 7 June 1703 for part of the site of the new Haymarket Theatre, and asking the court to issue an injunction against continued construction. (P.R.O. C10/507/78)

COMMENT: For a summary, see Document Register, no. 1775.

Friday 23

THE MARRIAGE-HATER MATCH’d [Durfe]. Solon—Norris. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. Not Acted there these Three Years. . . . With Singing by Mr Leveridge, and several Entertainments of Serious and Grotesque Danceing by the Famous Monsieur du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and others. All the Parts being play’d to the best Advantage, the Part of Solon by Mr Norris. For his own Benefit.

Saturday 24

THE SPANISH PRIAR, or, The Double Discovery [Dryd]. Cast not advertised. To which will be added a new Farce call’d, ‡ THE WIT OF A WOMAN [William Walker]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant, 23 June)

FIRST EDITION. The Wit of a Woman. As it is now Acted at the New Theatre In Little Lincolns-Inn-Fields. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants (London: Richard Basset and J. Chantry, 1705). Copy used: Readex. Prologue Design’d for the first Night. It being Acted after the Spanish Fryar. Prologue The Second Night. [Spoken] By Mrs Bradshaw. The Epilogue. No actors’ names. [The second prologue was printed in The Diverting Post of 28 October 1704.]

Dedication: The good fortune to have you in town just then; but in particular your Company the first Night of its Acting (at which time it met with a very favourable Reception from the Town) gave Birth to my Design [to dedicate the play to the recipient].

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Mr Fieldhouse. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing, especially a young Gentleman who never perform’d on the Stage before will Sing a new Song. And also a new Dialogue between him and one of the House, being set by Mr Hicks.

COMMENT: The “1704” edition mentioned by Avery (I, 73) is a ghost. The second performance apparently did not occur until 17 August, at which time the “second” prologue was probably used. See Danchin, I, 212.

Monday 26

THE AMOROUS WIDOW, or, The Wanton Wife [Betterton]. Damaris—Miss Mountfort. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. For the Benefit of Miss Evans and Miss Mountfort. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . With several Entertainments of Dance-
ing, viz. A New Dance by four Scaramouches to Faranoll's Ground, never perform'd but once. With a Scotch and Irish Dance by Miss Evans, and Dancing by Mr Firbank and his Scholar. To which will be added, a new Epilogue spoke by Miss Evans. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

COMMENT In connection with this date Danchin (I, 195-196) prints an “Epilogue Written by Arthur Manwayring Esq;” published by Giles Jacob in 1720, but internal evidence suggests that it was spoken by Mrs Brittle (Anne Bracegirdle's role), not a part that Miss Evans is likely to have essayed. So far as we are aware, the new epilogue used on this occasion is probably lost.

Tuesday 27
THE TRAGEDY OF MACKBETH [Shakespeare, adapted by Davenant]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS For the Benefit of Mr Baggs. . . . All the Musick both Vocal and Instrumental, being compos'd by Mr Leveridge, and perform'd by him and others. With several Entertainments of Serious and Grotesque Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and others. And several other Entertainments which will be express'd in the Great Bills.

Thursday 29
THE FATAL MARRIAGE, or, The Innocent Adultery (Written by Mr Southern). Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS For the Benefit of Mr Williams. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . All the parts being play'd to the best Advantage. With several Entertainments of Singing by Mr Leveridge, particularly a Song compos'd by the late Mr Henry Purcell, beginning, From Rosy Bowers, &c. Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel and Mrs Du Ruel, particularly the French Peasant and his Wife. And the Punchanello's Dance by Monsieur Cherrier. At common Prices.

Friday 30
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS Not Acted these Five Years. For the Benefit of Mr Short and Mrs Willis. . . . Also Singing and Dancing by Mrs Willis's two Daughters, who never perform'd before. With variety of Entertainments, as will be express'd in the large Bills. By Her Majesty's Servants.

July 1704
Saturday 1
THE SQUIRE OF ALSATIA (Written by the late Ingenious Mr Shadwell). Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS For the Benefit of Mrs Allison and Mrs Cox. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. . . . All the parts being play'd to the best Advantage. With several Entertainments of Singing by Mr Leveridge, particularly the Enthusiastick Song compos'd by him, and perform'd originally in the Opera of The Island Princess. Also Dancing by Monsieur Cherrier, and Mrs du Ruel, particularly a Chaconne by her, and the Punchanello Dance by him. And a Comical Epilogue to be spoken on an Ass by Mr Pinkeman. Being the last time of performing this Play till Winter. At Common Prices.

COMMENT Danchin (I, 214) speculates that Pinkethman may have spoken the “Haines epilogue.”
Tuesday 4
LIF

**The Villain** [Porter]. Villain—by the same Gentleman who play’d the part of Machiavell last Year, in Imitation of Mr Sandford. *Daily Courant, 3 July*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the benefit of Mr Cory . . . . With Singing by Mrs Hodgson, Mr Cook and Mr Davis; and a new Entertainment of Dancing by Mr Firbank, his Scholar, and Miss Evans. And the Dance of Blouzabella by Mr Prince and Mrs Clark. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

**COMMENT.** The identity of the “gentleman” is unknown.

Wednesday 5
DL

**The Taming of a Shrew;** Or, Sawny the Scot [Lacy, adapting Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. To which will be added the Two Doctors Scenes in the last Act of a Comedy call’d, **Le Medicin Malgre Luy** [Centlivre]. Cast not advertised. *Daily Courant*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mr Firbank and Mr Bickerstaffe. Not Acted there these Four Years . . . . With several Entertainments of Serious and Grotesque Dancing by the best Performers. And [at] the desire of several Persons of Quality, the Famous Signiora Francisca Margarita de l’Epine, will perform several Entertainments of Singing in Italian, being the best Songs she has Sung in England. The Musick that accompanies her Compos’d by Signior Giacomo Greber. She also Sings an English Song of the late Mr Henry Purcel’s; being the last time of her Singing till next Winter.

**COMMENT.** The subtitle of the mainpiece shows that this is John Lacy’s *Sauny the Scot* (1667), not Shakespeare’s original.

Friday 7
DL

**The Orphan,** or, The Unhappy Marriage [Otway]. Cast not advertised but Chamont—Phillips, an Oxford student [see DL, 16 August]. “All the Mens parts to be perform’d by young Gentlemen for their Diversion.” *Daily Courant*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Not Acted these Four Years . . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing, which will be express’d in the Great Bills.

**COMMENT.** The 16 August notice implies that the “young Gentlemen” were Oxford students.

Saturday 8
LIF

**COMMENT.** The company did not advertise this day’s performance, so the play is unknown. But in the *Daily Courant* of 13 July Lintott advertised publication of a “new Prologue spoken at the Theatre in Lincolns-Inn-Fields, on Saturday the 8th of July 1704, in praise of the Wells, &c, price 2d.” The prologue survives in a unique copy in the Newberry Library (bearing an acquisition date of 12 July), and has been reprinted by Danchin, I, 215-216.

Monday 10
LIF

**Ignoramus** [Codrington]. Cast not advertised. *Daily Courant*

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Not Acted these several Years . . . . Originally Acted before King James the First with great Applause at the University of Cambridge. And at the Desire of several Persons of Quality, Mr Layfield will perform several extraordinary Entertainments of Dancing, in particular, a New Italian Scaramouch, and Dancing between him and Miss Evans, being the first time of his Performance on the Stage. Likewise Singing by Mrs Hodgson, Mr Cook, Mr Davis, and Miss Baldwin. And a Comical Dialogue between Mr Short and Mrs Willis, and a Song in Imitation of an Old Woman by her. Also a New Prologue, and the Original Epilogue spoke by Ignoramus. At Common Prices. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

**COMMENT.** The new prologue was apparently not published. The authors of the *Biographical Dictionary* (IX, 174) accidentally misattribute Layfield’s debut to 10 January.
**Tuesday 11**

**SECRET LOVE,** or, The Maiden Queen (Written by the late Great Poet Mr Dryden). Celadon—Wilks. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the benefit of Mrs Mills and Mrs Shaw. . . . With a new Prologue spoken by Mr Pinkeman, representing a French Officer (in the Service of the Elector of Bavaria) just before the Engagement at Donawert; And an Epilogue by him, personating the same Officer after the Battle. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

**COMMENT.** The new prologue and epilogue were apparently not published.

**Friday 14**

**CIRCE** [Charles Davenant]. Cast not advertised. With the Mask of **ACIS AND GALATEA** [Motteux and Eccles]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of I. Smith. . . . All the Parts acted to the best Advantage by the whole Company. To which will be added the Bachanalian Musick as it was originally perform’d in *The Mad Lover* . . . Also a piece of Instrumental Musick entirely new, with a Solo by Mr Dean. There will be likewise variety of Comical Dances between the Acts. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

**COMMENT.** We believe the beneficiary to be the office keeper John Smith. He is not in the *Biographical Dictionary*, but see *Document Register*, no. 2120, and Danchin, I, 218. We take the activity of “Mr Smith (fl. 1703-1708)” to belong to John Smith (*Biographical Dictionary*, XIV, 130).

**ca. mid July**

**DOCUMENT.** At about this time the two companies exchanged barbs in a prologue spoken at Lincoln’s Inn Fields and an answering epilogue spoken at Drury Lane, printed together in broadside form and extant in a unique copy in the Newberry Library. Luttrell’s acquisition date was 20 July: “A Prologue Spoken by F—ny L—e [Francis Leigh], of the New Play-House, on a Dray-Horse, in Answer to Will. P—k—m—n’s on an Ass,” and “An Epilogue, In Answer to Mr L—e’s Prologue Spoken by Jubilee Dicky [Henry Norris] on Foot.” Both are reprinted with commentary by Danchin, I, 217-219. We do not know with what plays these pieces were used, but a reference to an office-keeper named Smith in the prologue may link it to the performance on 14 July for [John] Smith’s benefit.

**Monday 24**

**MADAM PICKLE,** or, The Witty False one [Durfey]. Cast not advertised but Jollyman—Underhill (see below). (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** For the Benefit of Mr Short and Mrs Willis. . . . To which will be added, That Comical Mimick Entertainment Sung by Mrs Willis, originally call’d the Turky-Cock Musick. She also Sings a Comical Country Dialogue with Mr Cook. And a single Song will be perform’d by her eldest Daughter, and her youngest Dances the *Irish Trot* to Admiration, she being not above five Years of Age. With a three-part Song set for the Queen’s Birth-day by Mr Eccles, perform’d by Mr Short, Mr Cook, and Mr Davis. And variety of other diverting Entertainments. By Her Majesty’s Sworn Servants.

**COMMENT.** “A Prologue for Cave Underhill” printed in Durfey’s *Songs Compleat* (1719) has been convincingly assigned to this performance by Danchin (I, 220-221). The speaker mentions that he has just performed the part of Jollyman, a role Underhill had created in 1676. A printed song for this play, “So sweets the charms of love,” said to be composed by Jeremiah Clarke and sung by Mrs Lucas, is preserved in the Royal College of Music (II.A.32).

**Tuesday 25**

**THE EMPEROR OF THE MOON** [Behn]. Cast not advertised. (*Daily Courant*)

**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Her Majesty’s Servants at the Theatre Royal (the Weather being chang’d) intend to Act on Wednesdays and Fridays, till Bartholomew-
Fair. . . With a Dome Scene taken out of an Opera call'd, The Virgin Prophetess. And several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing.

Thursday 27

‡ The Maid in the Mill [Anonymous adaptation of Fletcher and Rowley]. Being made into a Farce of three Acts. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. To which will be added, a new Scene between a Drunk-en Beau and a Chimney-Sweeper. With the Dialogue that used to be Sung in the Mad Lover between Mr Boman and Mr Dogget in Womens Cloaths. Also a Dialogue between Mr Cook and Mr Godwin who never yet perform'd upon the Stage. And the Dialogue that was in Love's a Jest, beginning, Hark ye Madam. With several Dances perform'd by Mr Laithfield [i.e., Layfield?], Mrs Evins, Mr Ferbank, his young Scholar, and others.

COMMENT. This adaptation was apparently not published.

Friday 28

The Fond Husband, or, The Plotting Sisters [Durfey]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing between the Acts. And the Company will continue to Act on Wednesdays and Fridays till Bartholomew-Fair.

Saturday 29

ADVERTISEMENT. Mr Collier's Disswasive from the Play-House. In a Letter to a Person of Quality occasion'd by the late Calamity of the Tempest. To which is now added, a Letter written by another Hand; In Answer to some Queries sent by a Person of Quality, relating to the Irregularities charged upon the Stage. Printed for Richard Sare at Grays-Inn-Gate. Price 3d. or 20s. per Hundred. (Daily Courant)

August 1704

Tuesday 1

A Match in Newgate, or, The Vintner trick'd [i.e., The Revenge] [Behn]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With two new Entertainments of Danceing by a young Gentlewoman lately come from Brussels. Also the Dialogue in the Mad Lover by Mr Boman and Mr Pack, representing a Drunken Officer and a Town Miss. With several Comick Dances and Singing between the Acts. By Her Majesty's Sworn Servants.

Wednesday 2

The Empress of Morocco [Settle]. Hametalhaz—Phillips. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. As it was perform'd several times at Court, by Persons of Great Quality, before his late Majesty King Charles II. With all the Scenes which were originally represented in it when acted at the Theatre, particularly the Fleet of Ships, and the Hell Scene, in which the Masquerade was perform'd. With several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing, and all the Parts acted to the best Advantage. The Part of Hametalhaz to be perform'd by the young Gentleman that acted Chamont in the Orphan for his Diversion [see 7 July]. With a new Epilogue spoken by him.

COMMENT. The new epilogue is apparently not extant.

Friday 4

The London Cuckolds [Ravenscroft]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS. With several Entertainments of Singing and Comick Danceing.
Tuesday 8

DOCUMENT. On this day was published *The Tryal of Skill: or, a New Session of the Poets* (London: Printed for the Booksellers of London and Westminster, 1704), a cheerful, anonymous, doggerel consideration of the merits of numerous writers, including such playwrights as Motteux, Durfey, Baker, Farquhar, Steele, Gildon, Oldmixon, Dennis, Burnaby, Vanbrugh, Congreve, and Southerne. The *Daily Courant* advertises publication this day, and Foxon (T475) reports that Luttrell acquired it the same day. *Document Register*, no. 1776.

Wednesday 9

**The Heir of Morocco**, with the death of Gayland the African Usurper [Settle]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: It being the Sequel of the *Empress of Morocco*, the Murderer of her Son Muly-Labass, and Deposer of the true Successor Maly-Mesude, preserv'd under the disguis'd Name of Altomar, who by Treachery suffer'd severe Torments, with an Ignominious Death. With several Entertainments of Singing and diverting Dances; particularly a *Harlequin Man and Woman*.

Wednesday 9

**Don Quixote** [Durfey]. Cast not advertised. With the Addition of that so much admir'd Farce call'd, *The Cheats of Scapin* (written by Monsieur Molliere, and translated by the Ingenious Mr Ottway). Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant, 8 August)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: For the Entertainment of several Foreign Ministers of State... With several extraordinary Entertainments between the Acts, as Singing by Mrs Hodgson, Mr Cook, and Mr Davis. Together with the last new *Morris Dance* between four Women and two Men. Also the *Venetian Dance* by Mr Godwin, and Mrs Clark. And likewise that much admir'd Dance of *Blousabella* by Mr Prince and Mrs Clark; the *Scotch Whim* and the *Irish Trot* by Mrs Evans. With other Entertainments too long to be incerted here. All which will be perform'd here. All which will be perform'd without Omission. Note, We shall not dismiss, let the Audience be what it will, and to begin punctually at half an hour after six at the furthest.

Thursday 10

**The Lancashire Witches**, or, Teague O Devily the Irish Priest [Shadwell]. Young Hartford—Pinkethman. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: And Mr Pinkeman being come to Town will act his own part of young Hartford the Country Squire, Dances the *Miller's Dance*, and speaks a Comical Epilogue riding upon an Ass.

COMMENT: Danchin (I, 221) speculates that what Pinkethman spoke was “probably the old Haines epilogue.”

Friday 11

**The Emperor of the Moon** [Behn]. Cast not advertised. (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. For the Entertainment of some Foreign Ministers of State. With several extraordinary Entertainments between the Acts, as Singing by Mrs Hodgson, Mr Cook, and Mr Davis. Also the *Venetian Dance* by Mr Godwin, and Mrs Clark. And likewise that much admir'd Dance of *Blousabella* by Mr Prince and Mrs Clark; the *Scotch Whim* and the *Irish Trot* by Mrs Evans. With other Entertainments too long to be incerted here. All which will be perform'd here. All which will be perform'd without Omission. Note, We shall not dismiss, let the Audience be what it will, and to begin punctually at half an hour after six at the furthest.

COMMENT: The prologue (responding to news of Blenheim) is apparently not extant.

Tuesday 15

**The Empress of Morocco** [Settle]. Cast not advertised (but see 2 August). (Daily Courant)

ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS: For the Benefit of the Box-keepers, and Door-keepers. Acted but once these several Years... The last reviv'd Play... As it was acted several times at Court by Persons of Great Quality, for the Entertainment of his late
Majesty K. Charles II. With all the Scenes that were originally used when it was acted at the Theatre, viz. The Fleet of Ships, the Hell Scene, in which the Masquerade was perform'd, and the Gaunches whereon Crimelhaz was executed. With several Entertainments of Singing, and variety of serious and Grotesque Danceing, (viz.) A Dance in Imitation of Madmoiselle D'Subligny by the Devonshire Girl. A Fury's Dance by Mr Laferry, Mr Cottine, and Mrs Lucas. And Tollet's Ground between her and Mr Cottine.

**Wednesday 16**  
**THE MISER** (Writ by the Ingenious Mr Shadwell, late Poet Laureat). Bellamour—Phillips. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** With several Entertainments of Singing; particularly by a Gentleman who never perform'd on the Stage before; With variety of Danceing, viz. A Harlauquin Man and Woman by Monsieur Laforest and the Devonshire Girl, with the Quakers Dance, and the Country Farmer's Daughter by her. The Part of Bellamour to be perform'd by Mr Phillips, who play'd Chamoun in the Orphan amongst the Oxford Gentlemen [see 7 July], and speaks a new Prologue to the Town, it being for his own Benefit.  
**COMMENT.** The prologue apparently does not survive.

**Thursday 17**  
**THE UNFORTUNATE COUPLE** [Motteux, adapting Filmer]. Cast not advertised. To which will be added, A COMICAL TRANSFORMATION, or, The Devil of a Wife [Jevon]. And our last new Farce call'd, **THE WIT OF A WOMAN** [Walker]. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Not Acted these Six Years. . . . This present Thursday will be reviv'd a short Tragedy. . . . With several extraordinary Entertainments of Singing and Danceing, being entirely new; and that so much admir'd Italian Scaramouch by Mr Layfield: With a new Morris Dance by two Men and four Women. Also a new Prologue to the Town. And an Epilogue to be spoken by a Comedian from the Theatre in Dublin, who never appear'd on this Stage before. All to be perform'd without Omission.  
**COMMENT.** The Unfortunate Couple was a one-act reduction made by Motteux from Edward Filmer's The Unnatural Brother (January 1697) for The Novelty (May 1697). According to the 1704 edition of The Wit of a Woman, the new prologue to the town was spoken by Lucretia Bradshaw. The speaker of the new epilogue was Richard Estcourt, according to the Muses Mercury, which published it in the April 1707 issue.

**Friday 18**  
**SIR MARTIN MARALL** (Written by the late Great Poet Mr Dryden) [actually by Dryden and Newcastle]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Not Acted there these Five Years. . . . With a Night Scene between Scaramouch and Harlequin, to be perform'd by the Famous Monsieur Surin and Mr Baxter. With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing, as will be express'd in the Bills.

**Wednesday 23**  
**TITUS ANDRONICUS, or, The Rape of Lavinia** [Ravenscroft, adapting Shakespeare]. Cast not advertised. *(Daily Courant)*  
**ADVERTISEMENT DETAILS.** Not Acted these Six Years. . . . With several Entertainments of Singing and Danceing. It being the last time of Acting this Season.

**Thursday 24**  
**ADVERTISEMENT.** Whereas the Master of the Revels has received Information, That several Companies of Strolling Actors pretend to have Licences from Noblemen, and presume under that pretence to avoid the Master of the Revels his Correcting their Plays, Drolls, Farces, and Interludes [and full text of notice as 13 April]. *(London Gazette, 21-24 August)*
**ENTERTAINMENTS.** We have not found advertisements for Bartholomew Fair performances this year, but an ad for Southwark Fair in the *Daily Courant* of 18 September mentions “Mr Pinkeman’s Company of Rope-Dancers, being the same Company that was at Bartholomew-Fair over against the Hospital-Gate, particularly the two famous French Maidens, and the Indian Woman.”

COMMENT: Morley, *Bartholomew Fair*, pp. 283-284, states that in 1704 *Bateman* was given at Parker and Doggett’s booth, and that *Jeptha’s Rash Vow* was offered at Pinkethman, Bullock, and Simpson’s. He may be correct, but we have found these titles so advertised in August 1703 and not in August 1704.

**Thursday 31**

**REPORT.** Mr Vanbrookes Play house in ye Haymarket is Roofeing and will be finisht by Christmas, being ye largest in Europe. It is 60 foot wide, 132 long and 50 foot high. The walle in the foundation 7 foot thick. It is built by subscription and 3000 Guineas already subscribed by ye Dukes of Devonshire, Somerset, etc. and it’s said the Queen gave 1000 Guineas towards it. (MS newsletter attached to the *Post Man* for 29-31 August 1704 in the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, UCLA; printed by J. D. Alsop in *Restoration and Eighteenth Century Theatre Research*, n.s. 5.1 [1990], 28.)

COMMENT: The report that Queen Anne contributed to the building of the Haymarket Theatre is false.
Index of Plays for 1703-04

Abra-Mule: see Trapp, Joseph
Acis and Galatea: see Eccles, John or Motteux, Peter Anthony
Æsop: see Vanbrugh, (Sir) John
Albion Queens: see Banks, John
All for Love: see Dryden, John
Amorous Widow: see Betterton, Thomas
Anatomist: see Ravenscroft, Edward
Baker, Thomas
Act at Oxford
suppressed 119
Hampstead Heath
based on An Act at Oxford 119
Humour of the Age
moral objections to 136, 137
Tunbridge-Walks
performance 123, 125, 129, 134, 142, 151, 167
Banks, John
Albion Queens
performance 153, 154, 155, 156; produced at DL 117
Island Queens
published 154
Unhappy Favourite
performance 127, 132, 147, 166
Vertue Betray'd
performance 123, 138
Bartholomew-Fair: see Jonson, Ben
Bateman
performance 178
Beaumont, Francis
King and no King
performance 170
Maid's Tragedy
performance 144, 147
Scornful Lady
performance 147, 155
Behn, Aphra
Emperor of the Moon
advertised but deferred 129; performance 124, 130, 134, 135, 145, 174, 176
Revenge
performance 175
Rover
performance 124, 128, 138, 146
Betterton, Thomas
Amorous Widow
performance 148, 162, 171
Prophetess
scenes used 135
Brittain's Happiness: see Dieupart, Charles or Motteux, Peter Anthony or Weldon, John
Brome, Richard
Jovial Crew
performance 155, 161
Brown, Tom
Stage-Beaux Toss'd in a Blanket
published 121
Buckingham, George Villiers, 2nd Duke of
Chances
performance 144
Cæsar Borgia: see Lee, Nathaniel
Caius Marius: see Otway, Thomas
Caryll, John
Sir Salomon
performance 152, 156, 157, 160, 161; performed at court 116
Centlivre, Susanna
Love's Contrivance
performance 125, 148, 164, 173
Medecin Malgre Luy
last act used as afterpiece 140, 157
Chances: see Buckingham, George Villiers, 2nd Duke of
Cheats of Scapin: see Otway, Thomas
Cibber, Colley
Love makes a Man
advertised but deferred 164; performance 123, 129, 133, 143, 153
Loves Last Shift
performance 125, 132, 137, 159
Richard III
performance 160
School-Boy
performance 148, 157
Circe: see Davenant, Charles
Codrington, Robert
Ignoramus
performance 173
Comical Revenge: see Etherege, Sir George
Comical Transformation: see Jevon, Thomas
Committee: see Howard, Sir Robert
Congreve, William
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Play</th>
<th>Performance(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Double-Dealer</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judgment of Paris</td>
<td>139, 142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love for Love</td>
<td>164, 168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Batchelour</td>
<td>124, 129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squire Tremooby</td>
<td>158, 167, 169; produced at LIF 118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conquest of Granada (Part 2)</td>
<td>see Dryden, John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constant Couple</td>
<td>126, 129, 133, 140, 143, 140, 167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Wit</td>
<td>122, 143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sir Courtly Nice</td>
<td>122, 126, 144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davenant, Charles</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circe</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davenant, Sir William</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempest</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis, John</td>
<td>130, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Asserted</td>
<td>performed at LIF 118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dido and Æneas</td>
<td>see Purcell, Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dieupart, Charles</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Britann’s Happiness</td>
<td>performance 149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Different Widows</td>
<td>see Pix, Mary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Carlos</td>
<td>see Otway, Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Quixote</td>
<td>see Durfey, Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double-Dealer</td>
<td>see Congreve, William</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dryden, John</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All for Love</td>
<td>performance 145, 167; performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>before Queen attacked 145; performed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at court 116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conquest of Granada Part 2</td>
<td>performance 162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oedipus</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secret-Love</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sir Martin Mar-all</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Fryar</td>
<td>127, 158, 165, 171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tempest</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke and no Duke</td>
<td>see Tate, Nahum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durfey, Thomas</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Quixote</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fond Husband</td>
<td>171, 175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madame Fickle</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage-Hater Match’d</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eccles, John</td>
<td>147, 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acis and Galatea</td>
<td>performance 147, 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loves of Mars and Venus</td>
<td>performance 142, 148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emperor of the Moon</td>
<td>see Behn, Aphra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empress of Morocco</td>
<td>see Settle, Elkanah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estcourt, Richard</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Example</td>
<td>performance 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etheridge, Sir George</td>
<td>141, 149, 168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comical Revenge</td>
<td>performance 141, 149, 168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man of Mode</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She wou’d if she cou’d</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Example</td>
<td>see Estcourt, Richard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faithfull Bride of Granada</td>
<td>see Taverner, William</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parquhar, George</td>
<td>126, 129, 133, 140, 167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constant Couple</td>
<td>performance 143, 165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage-Coach</td>
<td>143, 165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal Marriage</td>
<td>see Southerne, Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filmer, Edward</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnatural Brother</td>
<td>adapted by Motteux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finger, Godfrey</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virgin Prophetess</td>
<td>dome scene performed 175; scenes used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>134, 145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fletcher, John</td>
<td>155, 159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humorous Lieutenant</td>
<td>performance 170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King and no King</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maid in the Mill</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Maid's Tragedy
  performance 144, 147
Rule a Wife
  performance 130, 148
Scornful Lady
  performance 147, 155
Fond Husband: see Durfey, Thomas
Funeral: see Steele, (Sir) Richard
Greenwich-Park: see Mountfort, William
Hamlet: see Shakespeare, William
Have at all: see Williams, Joseph
Heir of Morocco: see Settle, Elkanah
Howard, Sir Robert
  Committee
false performance date 164; performance 165, 167
Humorous Lieutenant: see Fletcher, John
Ibrahim: see Pix, Mary
Ignoramus: see Codrington, Robert
Jeptha's Rash Vow
  performance 178
Jevon, Thomas
  Comical Transformation
  performance 172, 177
Jonson, Ben
  Bartholomew-Fair
  performance 156, 160
  Silent Woman
  performance 123, 133, 147
  Volpone
  performance 127, 129, 150, 170
Jovial Crew: see Brome, Richard
Judgment of Paris: see Congreve, William or Weldon, John
Julius Caesar: see Shakespeare, William
King and no King: see Beaumont, Francis or Fletcher, John
King Lear: see Tate, Nahum
Lacy, John
  Sauny the Scot
  performance 173
Lancashire Witches: see Shadwell, Thomas
Lee, Nathaniel
  Cæsar Borgia
  performance 169
  Oedipus
  performance 146
  Rival Queens
  performance 170
  Theodosius
  performance 144
Leveridge, Richard
  Brittain's Happiness
  performed 154
Libertine: see Shadwell, Thomas
Liberty Asserted: see Dennis, John
London Cuckolds: see Ravenscroft, Edward
Love and Danger 128, 129
Love at first Sight: see Crauford, David
Love for Love: see Congreve, William
Love makes a Man: see Cibber, Colley
Love the Leveller 141
  première deferred 140
  produced at DL 117
Love's Contrivance: see Centlivre, Susanna
Loves Last Shift: see Cibber, Colley
Loves of Mars and Venus: see Eccles, John or Motteux, Peter Anthony
Lying Lover: see Steele, (Sir) Richard
Macbeth [Davenant adaptation]: see Shakespeare, William
Madame Fickle: see Durfey, Thomas
Maid in the Mill [three-act farce]
  performance 175
Maid in the Mill: see Fletcher, John or Rowley, William
Maid's Tragedy: see Beaumont, Francis or Fletcher, John
Marry, or do Worse: see Walker, William
Merry Wives: see Shakespeare, William
Midnight Mistakes 120
Miser: see Shadwell, Thomas
Motteux, Peter Anthony
  Acis and Galatea
  performance 147, 174
  Brittain’s Happiness
  performance 149, 154
Island Princess
  dialogue from 156; music featured 139
Loves a Jest
  dialogue used as added attraction 175
Loves of Mars and Venus
  performance 142, 148, 172
Mad Lover
  dialogue used as added attraction 175; music used as added attraction 147, 148, 174
Unfortunate Couple
  performance 177
Mountfort, William
  Greenwich-Park
  performance 163, 164
Newcastle, Duke of
  Sir Martin Mar-all
  performance 177
Oedipus: see Dryden, John or Lee, Nathaniel
Old Batchelour: see Congreve, William
Oroonoko: see Southerne, Thomas
Orphan: see Otway, Thomas
Othello: see Shakespeare, William
Otway, Thomas
Caio Marzus
performance 133, 146, 150
Cheats of Scapin
performance 176
Don Carlos
performance 122, 148
Orphan
amateur performance 175, 177; performance 173
Venice Preserv’d
performance 129, 138, 142
Pilgrim: see Vanbrugh, (Sir) John
Pix, Mary
Different Widows
performance 127; produced at LIF 118
Ibrahim
performance 137, 148
Plain-Dealer: see Wycherley, William
Porter, Thomas
Villain
performance 173
Portsmouth Heiress
published 120
Psyche: see Shadwell, Thomas
Purcell, Henry
Bonduca
music performed 136
Dido and Æneas
performance 142, 161
Fairy-Queen
music performed 136, 169
Indian Queen [operatic version]
prologue performed 157
King Arthur
music performed 136; music used as added attraction 157
Prophetess
music performed 136; scenes used 135, 145
Timon of Athens
masque performed 132, 157, 164
Ralph, James
Cornish Squire
adapted from Squire Trelooby 158
Ravenscroft, Edward
Anatomist
performance 142, 148, 162
London Cuckolds
performance 175
Titus Andronicus
performance 177
Relapse: see Vanbrugh, (Sir) John
Revenge: see Behn, Aphra
Richard III: see Cibber, Colley
Rival Brothers 120
produced at LIF 118
Rival Queens: see Lee, Nathaniel
Rivers, Anthony
Traitor
performance 125
Rochester, John Wilmot, Earl of
Valentinian
performance 144
Rover: see Behn, Aphra
Rowe, Nicholas
Tamerlane
performance 160
Rowley, William
Maed in the Mill
performance 164
Rule a Wife: see Fletcher, John
Sauny the Scot: see Lacy, John
School-Boy: see Cibber, Colley
Scornful Lady: see Beaumont, Francis or Fletcher, John
Secret-Love: see Dryden, John
Settle, Elkanah
Empress of Morocco
original scenery used 175, 176; performance 175, 176
Heir of Morocco
performance 176
Virgin Prophetess
dome scene performed 175; scenes used 145
Shadwell, Thomas
Lancashire Witches
performance 126, 131, 137, 147, 162, 176
Libertine
performance 127, 134, 165, 167;
performance misassigned 165
Miser
performance 168, 177
Psyche
performance 170
Squire of Alsatia
performance 134, 136, 137, 139, 142, 146,
148, 153, 157, 162, 172
Sullen Lovers
performance 123; performance deferred 122
Timon of Athens
performance 132, 141, 149
Woman Captain
performance 125, 150
Shakespeare, William
Hamlet
    performance 125, 128, 146, 160
Julius Caesar
    performance 147
Macbeth [Davenant adaptation]
    moral objections to 136; performance 130, 136, 141, 152, 163, 172
Merry Wives
    performance 163, 167; performed at court 116
Othello
    performance 149, 164
She wou'd if she cou'd: see Etherege, Sir George
Silent Woman: see Jonson, Ben
Sir Courtly Nice: see Crowne, John
Sir Giddy Whim
    published 120
Sir Martin Mar-all: see Dryden, John or Newcastle, Duke of
Sir Salomon: see Caryll, John
Southern, Thomas
    Fatal Marriage
        performance 124, 152, 160, 172
    Oronoko
        performance 125, 129, 137, 164, 169
Spanish Fryar: see Dryden, John
Squire of Alsatia: see Shadwell, Thomas
Squire Trelooby: see Congreve, William or Vanbrugh, (Sir) John or Walsh, William
Stage-Couch: see Farquhar, George
Steele, (Sir) Richard
    Funeral
        advertised but deferred 125; performance 127, 133
    Lying Lover
        copyright sold 131; performance 131, 132; première deferred 131; produced at DL 117
Sullen Lovers: see Shadwell, Thomas
Tamerlane: see Rowe, Nicholas
Tate, Nahum
    Duke and no Duke
        performance 147, 150
    King Lear
        performance 123, 126, 134
Taverner, William
    Faithful Bride of Granada
        performance 119; produced at DL 117
Tempest: see Davenant, Sir William or Dryden, John
Theodosius: see Lee, Nathaniel
Timon of Athens: see Shadwell, Thomas
Titus Andronicus: see Ravenscroft, Edward
Traitor: see Rivers, Anthony
Trapp, Joseph
    Abra-Mule
        performance 138, 140, 141, 142, 147, 156, 160, 164; produced at LIF 118
Trotter, Catharine
    Revolution of Sweden
        Congreve's advice about 127
Tunbridge-Walks: see Baker, Thomas
Unhappy Couple: see Motteux, Peter Anthony
Unhappy Favourite: see Banks, John
Valentinian: see Rochester, John Wilmot, Earl of
Vanbrugh, (Sir) John
    Æsop
        performance 128, 140
    Pilgrim
        performance 123, 124, 128, 133, 138, 156
    Provok'd Wife
        moral objections to 136, 137
    Relapse
        performance 125, 129
    Squire Trelooby
        performance 158, 167, 169; produced at LIF 118
Venice Preserv'd: see Otway, Thomas
Vertue Betray'd: see Banks, John
Villain: see Porter, Thomas
Volpone: see Jonson, Ben
Walker, William
    Marry or do Worse
        produced at LIF 118
    Marry, or do Worse
        performance 124
    Wit of a Woman
        performance 171, 177
Walsh, William
    Squire Trelooby
        performance 158, 167, 169; produced at LIF 118
Weldon, John
    Britain's Happiness
        performance 149
    Judgment of Paris
        music featured 139; performance 139, 142
Williams, Joseph
    Have at all
        performance 120
Wit of a Woman: see Walker, William
Woman Captain: see Shadwell, Thomas
Wycherley, William
    Plain-Dealer
        performance 128, 151
General Index for 1703-04

advertising policy 115

Allison, Maria
member of LIF company 119
roles:
   Mrs Draul (Different Widows) 127
shared benefit 172

Anne, Queen
1704 proclamation on morality in theatres 139
birthday celebration 145
birthday entertainment used as attraction 149
command performances at court 116
false report of contribution to Haymarket Theatre 178
lack of interest in theatre 126
licenses LIF theatre 128
orders for actors at court performances 142
payment for plays acted at court in 1704 170

Baggs, Zachary
benefit 124, 172
member of DL company 118

Baker, Thomas
poetic comment on in 1704 176

Banister, John (1662?-1736)
concert 133, 165
Banister, John (b. 1686)
benefit concert 165
concert 157, 167
flute playing advertised 139, 162
member of DL company 118
music featured 158

Barnes, Mrs
advertises fair booth 165

Barry, Elizabeth
benefit 167
member of LIF company 119
praised 151
roles:
   Cleopatra (All for Love) 145; Lucina (Valentinian) 144; Mrs Page (Merry Wives) 163; Sakia (Liberty Asserted) 150
sworn as royal servant 126

Bicknell, Margaret
dancing advertised 124, 125, 127, 129, 134
member of DL company 118

Boman, Elizabeth
benefit 168
member of LIF company 119
raffles toys at May Fair 165

Boman, John
benefit 148
member of LIF company 118
roles:
   Frontenac (Liberty Asserted) 150; Kister Aga (Abra-Mule) 138
singing advertised 165, 168, 175

Bonomcini, Giovanni
music featured 149

Booth, Barton
member of LIF company 118
roles:
   Alexas (All for Love) 145; Captain Basil (Stage-Coach) 143; Courtly (Love at
first Sight) 157; Ulamar (Liberty Asserted) 150; Valentine (Different Widows) 127; Young Single (Sir Salomon) 152
speaks prologue 122, 127
unavailable at DL in 1704 153
Bracegirdle, Anne
benefit 167
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Abra-Mule (Abra-Mule) 138; Desdemona (Othello) 149; Irene (Liberty Asserted) 150; Julia (Sir Salomon) 152; Julia (Squire Trelooby) 158; Mrs Ford (Merry Wives) 163; Octavia (All for Love) 145
speaks epilogue 138, 148, 158
sworn as royal servant 126
Bradshaw, Lucretia
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Celinda (Love at first Sight) 157; Mariana (Different Widows) 127; Mrs Ann Page (Merry Wives) 163
speaks prologue 171, 177
Brown, Tom
writes epilogue 121
Bullock, William
benefit 126, 169
member of DL company 117
operates fair booth 178
part intended for in Act at Oxford 119
roles:
Charcoal (Lying Lover) 131; Clincher Junior (Constant Couple) 126; H. Priest (Love the Leveller) 141; Host (Merry Wives) 163; Timothy Squeeze (Miser) 168
Burnaby, William
poetic comment on in 1704 176
Campion, Mary Anne
benefit 125
dances at court 145
dancing advertised 123, 125, 128, 133, 135, 136, 137, 139, 143, 149, 154, 155, 158
member of DL company 118
singing advertised 125, 127, 128, 129, 133, 138
violin playing advertised (?) 138
censorship
1704 royal order for 138
Centlivre, Susanna
benefit 164
Cherrier, René
dances at court 145, 163
dancing advertised 133, 134, 136, 139, 143, 146, 147, 149, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 170, 171, 172
member of DL company 118
Cibber, Colley
attacked in 1703 poem 122
benefit 126, 160
member of DL company 117
part intended for in Act at Oxford 119
roles:
Latine (Lying Lover) 131; Richard III (Richard III) 160; Sir Courtly Nice (Sir Courtly Nice) 126; Wimble (Squire Trelooby) 158
Clark, Mrs (fl. 1695-1723)
dancing advertised 156, 169, 173, 176
member of LIF company 119
Clarke, Jeremiah
music featured 134
song for Madame Fickle 174
Claxton, Mr
performs at DL 169
Collier, Jeremy
Dissuasive from the Play-house 140
Dissuasive from the Play-House 130, 175
published 135
concerts
1703-04 130, 132, 133, 134, 136, 139, 142, 143, 149, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 162, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169
Congreve, William
advises Mrs Trotter about her play 127
attacked in 1703 poem 122
poetic comment on in 1704 176
Cook, Mr (fl. 1694-1718)
concert 133
member of LIF company 119
singing advertised 125, 147, 165, 169, 173, 174, 175, 176
Corbett, William
benefit concert 157
concert 167
music featured 169
Corelli, Archangelo
music featured 128, 134, 137, 144
Corey, John
member of LIF company 118
roles:
Careless (Different Widows) 127; Cuproli (Abra-Mule) 138
Cosimi, Nicola
paid for concerts 161
privy purse payment to 135

Cottin, Mr
dancing advertised 176
member of DL company 117

Cox, Susannah
member of DL company 117
roles:
  Betty (Lying Lover) 131; Dutchess
  Semorin (Love the Leveller) 141
shared benefit 172

dance
Arbour Dance 170
Blouzabella 173, 176
Chacone 172
Country Farmer’s Daughter 177
Country Frenchman and his Wife 169
Cyclops Dance 171
Dutch Skipper 138, 169
French Peasant and his Wife 170, 172
Fury’s Dance 177
Grand Dance 164
Grand Spanish Dance 145
Harlequin Man and Woman 134, 176, 177
Indian Tambor Dance 158
Irish Trot 174, 176
Italian Scaramouch 177
Miller’s Dance 176
Morrise Dance 176, 177
Night Scene 123, 126, 133, 138, 177
Punchanello 172
Quaker’s Dance 177
Scaramouch 138, 145
Scotch and Irish Dance 172
Scotch Dances 164
Scotch Whim 176
Skippers Dance 145
Venetian Dance 176

Davis, John (fl. 1700-1705)
member of LIF company 119
singing advertised 125, 147, 165, 169, 173, 174, 176

De l’Epine, Margarita
benefit 165
concert 166
member of DL company 118
performance misassigned 142
privy purse payment to 135
singing advertised 142, 144, 147, 148, 151, 153, 155, 156, 159, 161, 163, 165, 168, 169, 171, 173

Dean, Thomas (fl. 1701-1731)
concert 156
member of LIF company 119
plays at LIF 174

Dennis, John
attacked in 1703 poem 122
benefit 153
poetic comment on in 1704 176

Devonshire Girl: see Mosse, Mrs

Dieupart, Charles
Brittain’s Happiness attributed to 154
concert 167
privy purse payment to 135

Doggett, Thomas
benefit 149
disagreement with LIF company in 1703 117
gives LIF company 6 months’s notice in 1703 130
member of LIF company 118
operates fair booth 178
roles:
  Barnaby Brittle (Amorous Widow) 162;
  Ben (Love for Love) 164; Gomez
  (Spanish Fryar) 165; Savil (Scornful
  Lady) 147, 155; Sir Arthur Addle (Sir
  Salomon) 152; Sir Hugh (Merry Wives)
  163; Sir Oliver Cockwood (She wou’d if
  she cou’d) 163; Squire Somebody
  (Stage-Coach) 143; Squire Trelooby
  (Squire Trelooby) 158
singing advertised 139, 175
sings in Stage-Coach 143
speaks dialogue 149

Downes, John
member of LIF company 119

Drury Lane
1704 suit about unpaid rent 159
1704 suit over profits 168
advertising policy in 1703-04 115

Du Ruel, Eleanor
dances at court 163
dancing advertised 162, 163, 164, 165, 166,
  169, 170, 171, 172
member of DL company 118

Du Ruel, Philippe
dances at court 145, 163
dancing advertised 125, 127, 128, 129, 132,
  133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140,
  141, 142, 143, 144, 146, 147, 148, 149,
  150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157,
  158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165,
  166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172
member of DL company 118

Dursey, Thomas
attacked in 1703 poem 122
poetic comment on in 1704 176

Eccles, John 172
music for royal entertainment 174
sets ode for court performance 136
signs payment list for royal concert 135
song for Stage-Coach 143
elephant
epilogue delivered from 166
Elford, Mrs (fl. 1700-1706)
dances at court 145
dancing advertised 133, 134, 136, 139, 143, 149, 154, 155, 158
Elizabeth, Queen
attitude toward theatre 128
Essex, John
dancing advertised 127
Estcourt, Richard
possible DL manager in 1703-04 117
speaks epilogue 177
Etherege, Sir George
collected plays published in 1703 135
Evans, Mrs (fl. 1703-1708)
dancing advertised 134, 156, 169, 172, 173, 175, 176
member of LIF company 119
one person or two? 119
shared benefit 171
speaks epilogue 172
Fairbank, Charles
dancing advertised 144, 147, 148, 156, 169, 172, 173, 175
member of LIF company 119
shared benefit 173
Fairbank, Henry
benefit 137
member of DL company 117
roles:
Abass (Faithfull Bride of Granada) 120
Fairbank's boy
dancing advertised 144, 148, 156
Fairbank's Scholar
dancing advertised 169, 172, 173, 175
Farquhar, George
attacked in 1703 poem 122
poetic comment on in 1704 176
Fieldhouse, Mrs
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Harriot (Different Widows) 127
Fieldhouse, William (?)
benefit 171
member of LIF company 118
roles:
Gripeall (Love at first Sight) 157; Mursa (Abra-Mule) 138
Findley, 'Lady Mary' 165
Findley, Mr (fl. 1700-1706)
advertises fair booth 165
Freeman, John
member of LIF company 118
roles:
Haly (Abra-Mule) 138; Jeremy (Love at first Sight) 157; Micher (Stage-Coach) 143; Zephario (Liberty Asserted) 150
Gallia, Maria
appearance cancelled 157
benefit 162
singing advertised 162, 165
Garth, Dr Samuel
writes prologue 158
Gasparini, Francesco
concert 156, 157, 165
member of DL company 118
music featured 133
privy purse payment to 135
Gildon, Charles
poetic comment on in 1704 176
Godwin, John
member of LIF company 119
Godwin, Mr (fl. 1702-1709)
dancing advertised 156, 176
singing advertised 175
Good, Mr
member of DL company 118
singing advertised 134, 137, 139
Goodman's Fields theatre
1703 report of building 126
Goodsens, Francisco
member of LIF company 119
Greber, Jacomo
harpsichord playing advertised 142
music featured 142, 144, 147, 148, 155, 156, 159, 161, 163, 165, 168, 169, 173
privy purse payment to 135
Griffin, Philip
benefit 170
member of DL company 117
roles:
Algernoon (Love the Levellier) 141; Cecil (Albion Queens) 153; Clitus (Rival Queens) 170; Heartwell (Old Batchelour) 129; Manly (Plain-Dealer) 128; Old Bookwit (Lying Lover) 131; Ozmin (Faithfull Bride of Granada) 120
Hall, John (fl. 1703-1711)
collects for payment for DL in 1704 171
member of DL company 118
shared benefit 124, 160, 171

Haym, Nicola
privy purse payment to 135

Haymarket Theatre
1704 suit over site 171
construction progress report 178
subscribers’ agreement 166

Hicks, Mr
music featured 171

Hodgson, Mary (?)
court 133
member of LIF company 119
singing advertised 125, 156, 157, 165, 168,
169, 173, 176
sings in court performance 145

Holford, Thomas
sues Vanbrugh over Haymarket site 171

Holt, Lord Chief Justice
presentment against May Fair to 131

Hughes, Francis
concert 137
singing advertised 157

Hunt, Abigail
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Dolly (Stage-Coach) 143

Husband, Benjamin
member of DL company 117
roles:
Albovade (Faithfull Bride of Granada) 120

Isaac, Mr
dance for Queen’s birthday 145

Jersey, Earl of
replaced as LC in 1704 163

Johnson, Benjamin
benefit 167
member of DL company 117
part intended for in Act at Oxford 119
roles:
Alderman Smuggler (Constant Couple) 167;
Justice Wary (Sir Salomon) 152;
Sordico (Love the Leveller) 141;
Tradewell (Squire Trelooby) 158

Keene, Theophilus
unavailable at DL in 1704 153

Keller, Gottfried
music featured 133, 165

Kent, Earl (later Duke) of
becomes Lord Chamberlain in 1704 163

Kent, Mary
member of DL company 117
roles:
Zaida (Faithfull Bride of Granada) 120

Kent, Thomas
member of DL company 117
roles:
Belloon (Love the Leveller) 141

Killigrew, Charles
1704 order about licensing 154
1704 suit for DL rent 159
attacked for licensing profane plays 145
ordered to censor plays seriously 116
probable part in banning Act at Oxford 119
to be obeyed by comedians at court 144

Knapp, Francis
member of LIF company 118
roles:
Draul (Different Widows) 127; Timothy
(Love at first Sight) 157

Knight, Frances Maria
benefit 168
member of DL company 117
roles:
Abenede (Faithfull Bride of Granada) 120;
Princess Dowager (Love the Leveller) 141;
Queen Elizabeth (Albion Queens) 153

L’Abbé, Anthony
1704 petition to Lord Chamberlain 135
dances at court 145
dancing advertised 131, 133, 134, 136, 139,
143, 149, 154, 155, 158
disagreement with LIF company in 1703-04
117

La Forest, Mons.
dancing advertised 124, 127, 129, 134, 162,
164, 170, 177
member of DL company 118

La Tour, Peter
concert 165

Laroon, Marcellus
singing advertised 157

Lawson, Abigail
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Lady Gaylove (Different Widows) 127

Layfield, Lewis
dancing advertised 173, 175, 177
member of LIF company 119

Leigh, Elinor
benefit 169
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Marama (Abra-Mule) 138; Widow
Bellmont (Different Widows) 127

Leigh, Francis
benefit 169
member of LIF company 118
roles:
Constable (Stage-Coach) 143; Dandle (Different Widows) 127; Hector (Love at first Sight) 157
speaks prologue 174

Leveridge, Richard
Brittain's Happiness attributed to 149
court 137
member of DL company 118
music featured 130, 133, 136, 141, 152, 163, 172
privy purse payment to 135
roles:
  Apollo (Psyche) 170; Bacchus (Timon) 164;
  Pan (Psyche) 170; Pluto (Psyche) 170;
  Vulcan (Psyche) 170
sings in court performance 145
song for Britain's Happiness 149

Lincoln's Inn Fields
1703 reference to new license 128

Lindsey, Mary
court 137
member of DL company 118
singing advertised 156, 157, 158

Lintot, Bernard
buys copyright 131

Lloyd, Mr
member of LIF company 118
roles:
  Lord Courtall (Different Widows) 127

Locke, Matthew
music featured 170

Lord Chamberlain
1704 order about performance at court 144

Lucas, Jane
dancing advertised 127, 129, 164, 177
member of DL company 117
part intended for in Act at Oxford 119
roles:
  Lettice (Lying Lover) 131
  sings in Madame Fickle 174

Manning, Francis
attacked in 1703 poem 122

Marlborough, Sarah, Duchess of
signs payment warrant for plays 170

Mason, John
singing advertised 134, 138, 139

Master of the Revels
1704 notice about strollers 177
1704 order about licensing 154

May Fair

Grand Jury presentment against in 1703 131

Mayers, Mrs
benefit 156
dances at court 145
dancing advertised 139, 140, 142, 143, 144, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161
member of DL company 118

Maynwaring, Arthur
writes epilogue 136, 148

Miller, Josias
roles:
  Watchman (Love at first Sight) 157

Miller, Mr
member of LIF company 118

Mills, John
benefit 126, 162, 170
member of DL company 117
part intended for in Act at Oxford 119
roles:
  Abdolin (Faithful Bride of Granada) 120;
  King Lear (King Lear) 126; Lovemore (Lying Lover) 131; Morton (Albion Queens) 153; Sementin (Love the Leveller) 141
speaks epilogue 141

Mills, Margaret
member of DL company 118
shared benefit 174

Misses Lamentation for want of their Visard Masks (song) 168

Monthly Mask of Vocal Musick 115

Moore, Henrietta
benefit 125, 169
member of DL company 118
part intended for in Act at Oxford 119
roles:
  Sordico's Wife (Love the Leveller) 141

morality
1704 proclamation by Queen 139

Mosse, Mrs 130
benefit 147
member of DL company 118

Motteux, Peter Anthony
attacked in 1703 poem 122
poetic comment on in 1704 176

Mountfort, Susanna
first recorded appearance 152
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Betty (Sir Salomon) 152, 156, 157; Damaris (Amorous Widow) 171
shared benefit 171
Newcastle, Duke of
subscribes to Haymarket Theatre 166
Norris, Henry
benefit 137, 171
member of DL company 117
roles:
Dicky (Constant Couple) 126; Priest (Love the Leveller) 141; Solon (Marriage-Hater Match’d) 171
speaks epilogue 174
Oldfield, Anne
1704 contract with Patent Company 156
benefit 157
member of DL company 118
roles:
Queen Mary (Albion Queens) 153; Victoria (Lying Lover) 131
Oldmixon, John
poetic comment on in 1704 176
Olzi, Giuseppe
benefit 130
member of DL company 118
roles:

Pack, George
member of LIF company 118
roles:
Fetch (Stage-Coach) 143; Rhubarb (Squire Trellooby) 158; Sir Anthony Loveman (Different Widows) 127; Sir Nicholas Empty (Love at first Sight) 157
singing advertised 175
speaks prologue 122
Paisible, James
concert 133, 157, 165
member of DL company 118
music featured 158
music for Isaac’s dances at court 146
plays at DL 129, 139, 160, 162, 167
Parker, Robert
operates fair booth 178
Parsons, Mrs
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Lucy (Different Widows) 127
Pepusch, Godfrede
music featured 160
Pepusch, John Christopher
music featured 160
Phillips, Mr (amateur)
benefit 177
roles:
Bellamour (Miser) 177; Chamont (Orphan) 173; Hametalhaz (Empress of Morocco) 175
speaks prologue 177
Pinkethman, William
advises fair booth 166
benefit 142
dancing advertised 176
Downes’ comment on profits from fairs 166
member of DL company 117
operates fair booth 178
part intended for in Act at Oxford 119
roles:
Dr Caius (Merry Wives) 163; Festolin (Love the Leveller) 141; Physician (Squire Trellooby) 158; Ralph (Sir Salomon) 152; Storm (Lying Lover) 131; Young Hartfort (Lancashire Witches) 176
speaks epilogue 125
speaks epilogue on ass 169, 172, 176
speaks prologue and epilogue 174
Pittis, William
writes prologue and epilogue 122
Porter, Mary
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Lady Loveman (Different Widows) 127; Okima (Liberty Asserted) 150; Zaida (Abra-Mule) 138
speaks epilogue 127
speaks prologue 124
unavailable at DL in 1704 153
Potter, Mrs
member of LIF company 119
roles:
Fidelia (Love at first Sight) 157
Powell, George
benefit 170
member of DL company 117
member of LIF company 118
rapid changes of company 118
roles:
Beaufort (Liberty Asserted) 150; Ford (Merry Wives) 163; Lovewell (Love at first Sight) 157; Prospero (Tempest) 170; Rashly (Fond Husband) 171; Sir Courtly Nice (Sir Courtly Nice) 122; Sir James Bellmont (Different Widows) 127; Sir Positive At-all (Sullen Lovers) 123; Solymon (Abra-Mule) 138; Volpone (Volpone) 170
satire on Observator attributed to 126
speaks epilogue 122, 123
speaks prologue 122, 123
Powell, Mary
member of DL company 118
member of DL company in 1703-04? 130

Prince, Joseph
dancing advertised 173, 176
member of LIF company 119

Prince, Mrs (fl. 1696-1704)
member of LIF company 119
roles:
   Angelica (Different Wifdows) 127; Isabella
      (Stage-Coach) 143; Melissa (Love at first Sight) 157; Nerina (Squire
      Trolooby) 158

Prior, Matthew
prologue for court performance of All for Love 145

Purcell, Daniel
music featured 136

Purcell, Henry
music advertised by theatre 124, 144, 147,
   156, 165, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173
music featured in concert 139, 142, 155,
   157, 162, 169

Religio Poetae
   or, a Satyr on the Poets 122

Representation of the Impiety and
   Immorality of the English Stage 140,
   162

Rich, Christopher
collects payment in 1704 171
patentee at DL 117
receives apology for disturbance at DL 146
refuses to pay theatre rent 117
sued 168

Rogers, Jane
benefit 170
member of DL company 118
part intended for in Act at Oxford 119
probable role in Tempest 170
roles:
   Penelope (Lying Lauer) 131; Princess
      Constantia (Love the Leveller) 141;
      Zolinda (Faultfull Bride of Granada) 120

Rowe, Nicholas
attacked in 1703 poem 122

Saggione, Giuseppe
music featured 162

Sandford, Samuel
style imitated 173

Settle, Elkanah
attacked in 1703 poem 122

Shaw, Mr (fl. 1703)
singing advertised 124

Shaw, Mrs
member of DL company 118
shared benefit 174

Short, Mr
member of LIF company 119
shared benefit 172, 174
singing advertised 174
speaks dialogue 173

Simpson, Thomas
operates fair booth 178

Skipwith, Sir Thomas
patentee at DL 117
sued 168
sued for DL rent in 1704 159

Smith, Charles (violinist)
plays at YB 133

Smith, John (treasurer)
benefit 174
member of LIF company 119
note on identity of 174

Smith, Sir Edward
suit against theatre personnel and
   shareholders 116
suit over DL profits 168

Smith, William (oboe)
member of LIF company 119

Some Thoughts concerning the Stage 140

Sorin, Joseph
dancing advertised 123, 126, 177
member of DL company 118

Souterne, Thomas
attacked in 1703 poem 122
poetic comment on in 1704 176
thanked by Dennis for help with play 151

Steele, (Sir) Richard
author’s benefit 132
poetic comment on in 1704 176

Subligny, Madame
dancing imitated 128, 177

Subscription Musicck 115
performance 130, 133, 134, 136, 139, 142,
   143, 149, 154, 155, 158
postponed at LIF 152

Swiney, Owen
member of DL company 118
shared benefit 124, 160, 171

Tate, Nahum
attacked in 1703 poem 122

Tattnal, Mr
member of LIF company 118
roles:
   Macahone (Stage-Coach) 143

depth
attacks on 125, 136, 140, 148
tax on playgoers rumored 126

....
Thomas, Tobyas  
member of DL company 117
roles:
  Oliman (Faithfull Bride of Granada) 120

Tofts, Catherine  
apologizes for servant’s disturbance at DL 146
involvement in Subscription Musick 116
privy purse payment to 135
roles:
  Pallas (Judgment of Paris) 139
singing advertised 131, 133, 134, 136, 139, 142, 149, 154, 155, 158, 164

Toms, William  
member of DL company 117
roles:
  Dormantle (Love the Leveller) 141;
  Frederick (Lying Lover) 131

Trout, Mr  
member of LIF company 118
roles:
  Love at first Sight (Different Widows) 157; Hearty
  (Different Widows) 127; Tom Jolt (Stage-Coach) 143

Tryal of Skill 176

Underhill, Cave  
benefit 146, 156
member of LIF company 118
roles:
  Jollyman (Madame Fickle) 174; Timothy
  (Sir Salomon) 152, 156

Vanbrugh, (Sir) John  
1704 agreement with Newcastle 166
progress on building Haymarket theatre 117
suit over Haymarket site 171

Verbruggen, John  
member of LIF company 118
roles:
  Cæsar Borgia (Cæsar Borgia) 169; Page
  (Merry Wives) 163; Pyrrhus (Abraham-Male) 138; Ventidius (All for Love) 145
spoken as royal servant 126

Verbruggen, Susanna  
dies in childbirth 130

vizard masks  
forbidden in theatre by 1704 proclamation 139
song about 168

Weldon, John  
setting of Brittain’s Happiness 154

Weller, Mr  
member of LIF company 119
roles:
  Gaylove (Different Widows) 127; Lawyer
  (Love at first Sight) 151

Wilks, Robert  
benefit 125, 143, 144, 170
member of DL company 117
part intended for in Act at Oxford 119
roles:
  Abinomin (Faithfull Bride of Granada) 120; Alexander (Rival Queens) 170;
  Amintor (Maid’s Tragedy) 144;
  Andramont (Love the Leveller) 141;
  Celadon (Secret-Love) 174; Dolabella
  (All for Love) 145; Duke of Norfolk
  (Albion Queens) 153; King and no King
  [i.e., Arbaces] (King and no King) 170;
  Mosca (Volpone) 170; Peregrine (Sir
  Salomon) 152; Young Bookwit (Lying
  Lover) 131
speaks epilogue 121, 136
speaks prologue 141

Williams, Joseph  
benefit 172
member of DL company 117
roles:
  Davison (Albion Queens) 153; Dewcraft
  (Love the Leveller) 141

Willis, Elizabeth  
daughters perform at LIF 172, 174
member of LIF company 119
roles:
  Lady Courtall (Different Widows) 127
shared benefit 172, 174
singing advertised 165, 169, 174
speaks dialogue 173

Wood, Ann 137

Young Gentlewoman from Brussels  
dancing advertised 175