he Acting that with such Grandeur and Agreeable Majesty, That one of the Court Saturday 17 was pleas'd to Honour him with this Commendation; That Hart might Teach any DL King on Earth how to Comport himself.

THE ROVER; or, The Banish't Cavaliers. [By Mrs Aphra Behn.] Edition of 1677: Saturday 24 DG Prologue, Written by a Person of Quality. Don Antonio - Jevorne; Don Pedro -Medburne; Belvile - Betterton; Willmore - Smith; Frederick - Crosbie; Blunt -Underhill; Stephano – Richards; Philippo – Percivall; Sancho – John Lee; Florinda – Mrs Betterton; Hellena – Mrs Barrer; Valeria – Mrs Hughs; Angellica Bianca – Mrs Gwin [Anne Quin]; Moretta – Mrs Leigh; Callis – Mrs Norris; Lucetta – Mrs Gillo. Epilogue.

> COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/142, p. 81. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 348. There is no indication as to whether this is the premiere. The play was advertised in the London Gazette, 6-9 Aug. 1677.

## April 1677

THE CAPTAIN; or, Town Miss. Author not known. Cast not known. Monday 2 COMMENT. The King's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/141, p. 359. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 346. This play was not published. It might be John Fletcher's The Captain.

> Monday 9-Saturday 14 PASSION WEEK

## May 1677

Saturday 5 DL

DL

SCARAMOUCH A PHILOSOPHER, HARLEQUIN A SCHOOL-BOY, BRAVO, MERCHANT AND MAGICIAN. [By Edward Ravenscroft.] Edition of 1677: Prologue. Scaramouch - Griffin; Pancrace - Powell; Octavio - Clark; Cynthio -Wiltshire; Spitzaferro - Cartwright; Plautino - Goodman; Harlequin - Haynes; Aurelia - Mrs Vincent; School Mistris - Mrs Corey.

COMMENT. The King's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/141, p. 359: Scaramucha & Harlakyn. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 346. There is no certainty that this performance is the premiere, but the entry of the play in the Term Catalogues for July 1677 makes probable a first performance in May 1677.

Saturday 12 DG

CIRCE. [By Charles Davenant.] Edition of 1677: The Prologue, Written by Mr Dryden. No actors' names. The Epilogue, by the Earl of Rochester. Downes (Roscius Anglicanus, pp. 36-37): Orestes - Betterton; Pylades - Williams; Ithacus -Smith; Thoas - Harris; Circe - Lady Slingsby; Iphigenia - Mrs Betterton; Osmida -Mrs Twiford.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/142, p. 81, a last, undated entry in a series of plays acted from 28 May 1675 to 12 May 1677. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 348. A performance, dated 12 May 1677, is on the L. C. lists at Harvard; see Van Lennep, "Plays on the English Stage, 1669–1672," p. 12. Downes (pp. 36–37): All the Musick was set by Mr Banister, and being well Perform'd, it answer'd the Expectation of the Company. Two of the songs, with the music by Bannister, are in *Choice Ayres and Songs*, S The Second Book, 1679. *The Songs in Circe*, published separately in 1677, bears a licensing date of 7 May 1677. The play was licensed 18 June 1677, and entered in the *Stationers' Register*, 19 June 1677.

COMMENT. L. C. 5/142, p. 38 (see also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 355): Order to Mr Staggins, Master of his Majesty's Musick, and in his absence to Mr Lock, who officiates for him:—That all His Majesty's musitians doe attend to practise in the theatre at Whitehall at such tymes as Madam Le Roch and Mr Paisible shall appoint for y<sup>e</sup> practiceing of such musick as is to be in y<sup>e</sup> French comedy to be acted before His Ma<sup>tie</sup> [the 29 May].

RARE EN TOUT. [By Madame de la Roche-Guilhen.] Edition of 1677: Prologue. No actors' names.

COMMENT. See 22 May 1677. John Verney to Edmund Verney, 31 May 1677: On Wednesday his Majesty's birth night was some gallantry at Whitehall, where was acted a French opera, but most pitifully done, so ill that the King was aweary on't, and some say it was not well contrived to entertain the English gentry, who came that night in honour to their King, with a lamentable ill-acted French play, when our English actors so much surpass; however, the dances and voices were pretty well performed (HMC, 7th Report, Appendix, Part I, 1879, p. 468).

A FOND HUSBAND; or, The Plotting Sisters. [By Thomas D'Urfey.] Edition of 1677: Rashley – Smith; Ranger – Harris; Peregrine Bubble – James Nokes; Old Fumble – Anth. Leigh; Sir Roger Petulant – Sandford; Sneak – Jevan; Spatterdash – Richards; Apothecary – Percival; Emillia – Mrs Barrer; Maria – Mrs Marshal; Cordelia – Mrs Hughes; Betty – Mrs Napper; Governess – Mrs Norrice. Prologue. Epilogue, Spoken by Fumble. Edition of 1678 adds: Jeremy – Richards.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/143, p. 162: At the Fond Husband. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 349. Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 36): [This comedy and Otway's *The Soldier's Fortune*] took extraordinary well, and being perfectly Acted; got the Company great Reputation and Profit.

One song, "Under the branches of a spreading tree," set by [William (?)] Turner, is in *Choice Ayres and Songs*, The Second Book, 1679. For Nokes and Leigh in this play, see Cibber, *Apology*, ed. Lowe, I, 149. According to *The Guardian*, 15 June 1713, Charles II attended three of the first five nights of this play.

## June 1677

THE FRENCH CONJUROR. [By Thomas Porter.] Edition of 1678: Prologue. DG Avarito – Jevon; Claudio – Crosby; Dorido – Gillo; Horatio – Norris; Truro – Percival; Monsieur – Anthony Leigh; Audacio – Richards; Pedro – John Lee; Clorinia – Mrs Barry; Leonora – Mrs Hughes; Sabina – Mrs Norris; Scintilla – Mrs Leigh. The Epilogue.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. There is considerable uncertainty as to the date of production of this play. Because it was licensed for printing on 2 Aug. 1677, it was probably first acted not later than July 1677. Because some of the names in the cast represent younger actors, it has been thought to be a Lenten production (see Gray, "Lenten Casts," pp. 789–90). It seems, however, that the play, because of its reference to performances by the French comedians (the Epilogue refers to "de French Troop at toder end o'Town") and the offering of

17

Digitized by Google

Saturday 12 DG

Tuesday 22 At Court

*Tuesday 29* At Court

Tbursday 31 DG