Saturday 4 DL COMMENT. The King's Company. The date of the premiere is not certain. This performance is known from an entry in the Newdigate newsletters, which also states that *Rollo* was to be acted on the following Monday. If this statement is accurate, the performance of *The Loyal Brother* on 4 Feb. 1681/2 may be the third night rather than the opening performance.

Newdigate newsletters, 4 Feb. 1681/2: On Monday morn [the Moorish Ambassador] & ye Com<sup>ers</sup> meet to conclude y<sup>e</sup> treaty and in y<sup>e</sup> afternoon goes to see Rollo D. of Normandy at y<sup>e</sup> K<sup>s</sup> playhouse w<sup>re</sup> y<sup>e</sup> K was this afternoon to see y<sup>e</sup> new play calld y<sup>e</sup> Loyall broth<sup>r</sup> (Wilson, "More Theatre Notes from the Newdigate Newsletters," p. 59).

The Prologue and Epilogue were printed separately and have been reprinted in Wiley, *Rare Prologues and Epilogues*, pp. 70–72. Luttrell acquired his copies (Huntington Library) on 7 Feb. 1681/2. In *The Life of John Dryden* (Chapel Hill, 1961), Charles E. Ward believes (pp. 166, 355) that *The Loyal Brother* was first acted in the autumn of 1681; but the entry in the Newdigate newsletters seems to make February 1682 the more probable time.

*Monday 6* DL ROLLO, DUKE OF NORMANDY. [The Bloody Brother, by John Fletcher.] Cast no known.

COMMENT. The King's Company. Newdigate newsletters, 4 Feb. 1681/2: On Monday morn [the Moorish Ambassador] & y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>ers</sup> meet to conclude y<sup>e</sup> treaty & in y<sup>e</sup> Afternoon goes to see Rollo D. of Normandy at y<sup>e</sup> K<sup>s</sup> playhouse (Wilson, "More Theatre Notes from the Newdigate Newsletters," p. 59).

Tbursday 9 DG VENICE PRESERV'D; or, A Plot Discover'd. [By Thomas Otway.] Edition of 1682: Prologue [Spoken by Mr Smith]. Epilogue [Spoken by Mr Betterton]. Duke of Venice – D. Williams; Priuli – Boman; Antonio – Leigh; Jaffeir – Betterton; Pierre – Smith; Renault – Wilshire; Bedamar – Gillo; Spinosa – Percival; Belvidera – Mrs Barry; Aquilina – Mrs Currer.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is known by the separately printed Prologue and Epilogue: Prologue. By Mr Otway to his Play call'd Venice preserv'd or the Plot discover'd. Acted at His Royal Highness the Duke of Yorks Theatre, the 9th of February, 1681. [These have been reprinted in Wiley, *Rare Prologues and Epilogues*, pp. 61–66.] Luttrell dated his copy of the Prologue and Epilogue 11 Feb. 1681/2 (Huntington Library). It is not certain that 9 Feb. 1681/2 represents the first performance, but it may well be. For a comment by Downes, *Roscius Anglicanus*, on Mrs Barry, see *The Orphan*, February 1679/80.

Saturday 11 DG VENICE PRESERV'D. See 9 Feb. 1681/2. COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/145, p. 120. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 349.

Thursday 16 MACBETH. [Altered from William Shakespeare by Sir William Davenant.] Cast DG not known. For a previous cast, see 18 Feb. 1672/3.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The Loyal Protestant, 18 Feb. 1681/2: On the 16th instant his Excellency the Morocco Embassador was pleased to divert himself at his R. Highness's Theatre, where, to the satisfaction of his Excellency, was acted the Tragedy of *Mackbetb*.

Wednesday 22 COMMENT. The Loyal Protestant, 23 Feb. 1681/2: London Feb. 22. This evening DL His Majesty was pleased to divert himself at a Comedy at the Theatre Royal.

Tuesday 28COMMENT. True Protestant Mercury, 25 Feb.-1 March 1681/2: Yesterday the<br/>Morocco Embassador diverted himself at a Comedy, at the Royal Theater.