

William Mountfort.] Edition of 1691: Prologue, Spoken by Mr Powell. Epilogue, Spoken by Mrs Bracegirdle. King Edward the Third – Powell; Mortimer Earl of March – Williams; Lord Mountacute – Mountfort; Sir Tho. Delamore – Kynaston; Sir Robert Holland – Hodgson; Tarleton, Bishop of Hereford – Lee; Serjeant Eitherside – Nokes; Turrington – Bridges; Nevill – Freeman; Sly – Bright; Secret – Trafuse; Earl of Leicester – Bowman; Earl of Exeter – Sandford; Isabella – Mrs Barry; Maria – Mrs Bracegirdle.

DL

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but it followed *The Gordian Knot Unty'd*, which is mentioned in the Prologue. *Edward III* was advertised in the *London Gazette*, No. 2629, 19–22 Jan. 1690/1, and entered in the *Term Catalogues*, February 1690/1.

The authorship is uncertain. The title page bears no author's name, but the Dedication is signed by Will. Mountfort. In addition, on 10 Oct. 1691 Mountfort received a grant of £10 when *Edward III* was played before the Queen (L. C. 5/150, p. 306, in Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 357). On the other hand, the *Gentleman's Journal*, October 1692, stated that it was written by the author of *Henry the Second*, which has been attributed to John Bancroft. See Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, pp. 388–89, for a summation of the evidence on this problem. Alfred Harbage, "Elizabethan-Restoration Palimpsest," *Modern Language Review*, xxxv (1940), 319, thinks that this is a revision of Robert Davenport's *The Politic Queen*.

AMPHITRYON. See 21 Oct. 1690.

Saturday 1
IT

COMMENT. The United Company. The company received the customary fee of £20 for this performance. See *A Calendar of the Inner Temple Records*, III, 286. This play was also reprinted in 1691.

THE ROVER. [Part I (?) By Mrs Aphra Behn.] Probably Mountfort acted Willmore. With a CONCERT.

Tuesday 4
At Court

COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/141, p. 369. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 352. In L. C. 5/150, p. 156, is an order to prepare the stage for the play, and, in L. C. 5/150, p. 164, is another order for new equipment.

Luttrell, *A Brief Relation*, II, 125: The 4th, being his majesties birth day . . . and at night was a consort of musick, and a play afterwards.

Matthew Prior wrote *A Pindarique Ode* which was sung before Their Majesties at Court on this day. See *The Literary Works of Matthew Prior*, ed. H. B. Wright and M. K. Spears (Oxford, 1959), I, 96–98; II, 858.

Cibber, *Apology*, I, 128: The agreeable was so natural to [Mountfort], that even in that dissolute Character of the Rover he seem'd to wash off the Guilt from Vice, and gave it Charms and Merit. For tho' it may be a Reproach to the Poet to draw such Characters not only unpunish'd but rewarded, the Actor may still be allow'd his due Praise in his excellent Performance. And this is a Distinction which, when this Comedy was acted at Whitehall, King William's Queen Mary was pleas'd to make in favour of Monfort, notwithstanding her Disapprobation of the Play.

CIRCE. [By Charles Davenant.] *Cast not known*.

Friday 7
At Court (?)

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of this performance is not certainly known. On 7 Nov. 1690 an order was issued to pay Mrs Barry £25 for *Circe*, acted by command.

THE PROPHETESS. See June 1690.

Monday 17
DG

COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/151, p. 369: y^e Q a Box & a Box for y^e Maids Honor Prophetess. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 352.