

December 1690

- DL ALPHONSO KING OF NAPLES. [By George Powell.] Edition of 1691: The Prologue, Spoken by Mr Powell, As it was written by Mr John Haynes. Alphonso – Bowman; Ferdinand – Powell; Cesario – Mountfort; Tachmas – Hodgson; Vincentio – Bridges; Sigismond – Cibber; Oswell – Freeman; Fabio – Bowen; Attendant – Kirkham; Urania – Mrs Bracegirdle; Ardelia – Mrs Richardson. Epilogue, Spoken by Mrs Knight, Written by Mr D’Urfey.

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known; it is one of several plays which may have been acted in or near December, for three were entered in the *Term Catalogues* at approximately the same time. Of the three, *The Mistakes* was given first near Christmas 1690; the other two may have come earlier in the month.

A song, “When Sylvia was kind,” the music composed by John Eccles, is in *Joyful Cuckoldom*, ca. 1695. In the text of the play is a song, “Corinna in the bloom of youth,” sung by Mrs Botoler.

- DL THE SCOWRERS. [By Thomas Shadwell.] Edition of 1691: Mr Rant – Kynaston; Sir Will. Rant – Mountfort; Wildfire – Williams; Tope – Leigh; Whachum – Bowman; Bluster – Freeman; Dingboy – Cudworth; Sir Rich. Maggot – Bright; Ralph – Bowen; Jasper – Will Peer; Lady Maggot – Mrs Leigh; Eugenia – Mrs Barry; Clara – Mrs Bracegirdle; Priscilla – Mrs Cory; Lettice – Mrs Richeson; Abigail – Mrs Osborn. Prologue. Epilogue.

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known. This is the second of three plays which have been assigned to December 1690 (see *Alphonso* and *The Mistakes*). It was entered in the *Term Catalogues*, Feb. 1690/1, and advertised in the *London Gazette*, No. 2638, 19-23 Feb. 1690/1.

- Mid-December DL THE MISTAKES. [By Joseph Harris.] Edition of 1691: Don Juan de Mendoza – Hodgson; Alberto – Powell; Antonio – Alexander [Verbruggen]; Ricardo – Montfort; Lopez – Bowen; Bernardo – Trefusis; Miranda – Mrs Bracegirdle; Astella – Mrs Butler; Maria – Mrs Richardson. Prologue, Written by Mr Dryden [and spoken by Bright, Bowen, Williams]. Epilogue, [written] by Mr Tate, Spoken by Mrs Butler in Mans Cloaths. Another Epilogue Spoken by Mr Montfort.

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but the Preface states: . . . the many inconveniences this hasty Peice has been expos’d to, as the Season of the being [sic] so near Christmas. [The Preface also refers to several scenes omitted in the action and expresses gratitude to Mountfort who wrote one scene of the fifth act.] This play was entered in the *Term Catalogues*, Feb. 1690/1.

January 1691

- DL LOVE FOR MONEY; or, The Boarding School. [By Thomas D’Urfey.] Edition of 1691: Prologue. Epilogue, by Mr Mountfort and Mrs Butler. Sir Rowland Rakehell – Underhill; Jack Amorous – Mountfort; Will Merriton – Hodson; Old Merriton – Freeman; Nedd Bragg alias Captain Bouncer – Powel; Old Zachary Bragg – Bright; Deputy Nincompoo – Dogget; Monsieur Le Prate – Bowen; Singing Master – Kirkham; Dancing Master – Bowman; Presbyterian Parson –

Peire; Lady Addleplot – Anthony Leigh; Lady Straddle – Mrs Richardson; DL
Mirtilla – Mrs Bracegirdle; Miss Jenny – Mrs Knight; Miss Molly – Mrs Davies;
Betty Jiltall – Mrs Butler; Crowstich – Mrs Cory; Teareshift – Mrs Osborn; Oyley –
Mrs Leigh.

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the première is not known, although a reference in the text to 1690 suggests that the play may have been produced in that year; but the fact that it was not advertised in the *London Gazette* until 6–9 April and not entered in the *Term Catalogues* until May 1691 suggest that it possibly appeared early in 1691.

This play was discussed in *Wit for Money, or Poet Stutter. A Dialogue between Smith, Johnson, and Poet Stutter; containing Reflections on some late Plays, and particularly on Love for Money, or The Boarding School*. The British Museum copy of this pamphlet has a manuscript date of 23 April 1691.

Downes, *Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 42: *The Boarding School*; Wrote by Mr Durfy, it took well being justly Acted. Earl of Ailesbury, mid-January 1690/1: My Lady Fenwick was a great intriguer, and had always castles in the air in her imagination to that degree, that I was present at a play where she was brought in. If I mistake not it was *The Boarding School*, and the famous comic, Mr Lee, in woman's clothes represented her to the life, and so exactly had her features and complexion that one could hardly have distinguished one from the other (*Memoirs*, [London, 1890], II, 390–91).

CONCERT. *A Pindarick Ode, on New-Year's-Day: Perform'd by Vocal and Instrumental Musick, Before Their Sacred Majesties, K. William and Q. Mary. Set by Dr John Blow, and Written by Thomas D'Urfey.* Thursday 1
At Court

COMMENT. This work was published in 1691.

Friday 30

A FAST DAY FOR THE MARTYRDOM OF CHARLES I

February 1691

KING EDWARD THE THIRD. See November 1690.

COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/151, p. 369: y^c Q & a Box for y^c Maids Honr Edward 3. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 352.

Wednesday 4
DL

CONCERT. See 26 Feb. 1690/1.

Friday 20
BG

CONCERT.

COMMENT. *London Gazette*, No 2639, 23–26 Feb. 1690/1: The new Consort of Musick, which began on Friday the 20th instant, next Bedford Gate in Charles-street, Covent Garden, will be performed at the aforesaid place, this present Thursday the 26th instant, and so continue every Thursday, beginning between 7 and 8 in the Evening.

Thursday 26
BG