

- DL *Gentleman's Journal*, March 1692: We have had lately a new Play, called, *The Innocent Impostors*. It hath been acted four times. Mr Shadwell Poet-Laureat, usher'd it into the Stage. It is said that the Author of it is not one of the Laity; therefore since he desires not to be known, I shall not presume to let you know his Name, tho the Play being Historical, and altogether of the Tragick kind, and withal treated with all the decency imaginable, can never be inglorious to its ingenious Author.
- Tuesday 9
DL THE ORPHAN. [By Thomas Otway.] Cibber probably played the role of the Chaplain.
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 Honr Orphan. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 352. Cibber, *Apology*, I, 183: There is in this Character [Chaplain] (of one Scene only) a decent Plesantry, and Sense enough to shew an Audience whether the Actor has any himself. Here was the first Applause I ever receiv'd, which you may be sure, made my Heart leap with a higher Joy than may be necessary to describe.
- Saturday 12 COMMENT. *Gentleman's Journal*, February 1691/2 (licensed 12 Feb. 1691/2): Mr Dryden has compleated a new Tragedy, intended shortly for the Stage, wherein he hath done a great unfortunate Spartan no less justice than Roman Anthony met with in his *All for Love*. You who give Plutarch a daily reading, can never forget with what magninimity (under all his tedious misfortunes) Cleomenes behaved himself, in the Aegyptian Court. This Hero, and the last Scene of his Life, has our best Tragic Poet chose for his fruitful Subject. . . . Mr Dryden makes his Spartans, in this, speak as manly heroic Lacedaemonians, those more than Romans ought to speak, and since I am certain of your assent, at least, to my faith, I shall be bold to add, That tho I cannot but grant that Cleomenes alone could be author of his own glorious performances, yet I am most confident that their intire lustre will be fully maintained by Dryden's lively description, and Mr Betterton's natural imitation.

March 1692

- DL THE TRAYTOR. [By Anthony Rivers.] Edition of 1692: Duke of Florence – Hodgson; Lorenzo – Kynaston; Sciarrha – Williams; Pisano – Cibber; Cosmo – Harris; Florio – Alexander [Verbruggen]; Depazzi – Haynes; Frederico – Mich. Lee; Alonzo – Bright; Petruchio – Freeman; Rogero – Tommy Kent; Amidea – Mrs Bracegirdle; Oriana – Mrs Lassells; Morossa – Mrs Cory.
COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but the play was noticed in the *Gentleman's Journal*, April 1692 (licensed 13 April 1692) as having been acted "last month" (March). It was entered in the *Term Catalogues*, May 1692.
Gentleman's Journal, April 1692 (licensed 13 April 1692): The Traytor, an old Tragedy, hath not only been revived the last Month, but also been reprinted with Alterations and Amendments; It was suppos'd to be Shirly's, but he only usher'd it in to the Stage; the Author of it was one Mr Rivers a Jesuite, who wrote it in his Confinement in Newgate, where he died. It hath always been esteemed a very good Play, by the best Judges of Dramatick Writing.
- Thursday 3
DL COMMENT. An order to pay Mrs Barry £25 for *The Orphan* (L. C. 5/151, p. 30; Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 358) probably represents payment for the performance on 9 Feb. 1691/2.