THE ANATOMIST. THE LOVES OF MARS AND VENUS. See 14 Nov. 1696. Monday 16 LIF Tuesday 17 THE ANATOMIST. THE LOVES OF MARS AND VENUS. See 14 Nov. 1696. LIF THE ANATOMIST. THE LOVES OF MARS AND VENUS. See 14 Nov. 1696. Wednesday 18 LIF

Tbursday 19 THE ANATOMIST. THE LOVES OF MARS AND VENUS. See 14 Nov. 1696. LIF COMMENT. Robert Jennens to Thomas Coke, 19 Nov. 1696: There has been for four or five days together at the play house in Lincolns Inn Fields acted a new farce translated out of the French by Mr Monteux called the Shame [Sham] Doctor or the Anatomist, with a great concert of music, representing the loves of Venus and Mars, well enough done and pleases the town extremely. The other house has no company at all, and unless a new play comes out on Saturday revives their reputation, they must break (HMC, 12th Report, Appendix, Part II, Cowper MSS., II, 367).

Friday 20 LIF

DL

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THE ANATOMIST. THE LOVES OF MARS AND VENUS. See 14 and 19 Nov. 1696.

COMMENT. Betterton's Company. In view of the success of this double bill, it seems likely that the two works reached at least a sixth performance, probably on this day, thus providing a second benefit to the authors.

THE RELAPSE; or, Virtue in Danger. [By John Vanbrugh.] Edition of 1697: Saturday 21 First Prologue, Spoken by Mrs Cross. Prologue on the Third Day, Spoken by Mrs Verbruggen. Epilogue, Spoken by Lord Foppington. Sir Novelty Fashion -Cibber; Young Fashion - Mrs Kent; Loveless - Verbruggen; Worthy - Powell; Sir Tunbelly Clumsey - Bullock; Sir John Friendly - Mills; Coupler - Johnson; Bull - Simson; Serringe - Haynes; Lory - Dogget; Amanda - Mrs Rogers; Berinthia - Mrs Verbruggen; Hoyden - Mrs Cross; Nurse - Mrs Powell.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. The evidence for this date as the première of The Relapse is Jennens' report on 19 Nov. 1696 that Drury Lane expected to produce a new play on this date, coupled with the fact that Lady Morley saw this play on 25 Nov. 1696. The play was advertised in the Post Boy, 26-29 Dec. 1696.

Preface, Edition of 1697: One word more about the Bawdy, and I have done. I own the first Night this thing was acted, some indecencies had like to have happen'd, but 'twas not my Fault. The fine Gentleman of the Play, drinking his Mistress's Health in Nants Brandy, from six in the Morning, to the time he wadled upon the Stage in the Evening, had toasted himself up, to such a pitch of Vigor, I confess I once gave Amanda for gone, and am since (with all due Respect to Mrs Rogers) very sorry she scap'd; for I am confident a certain Lady (let no one take it to herself that is handsome) who highly blames the Play, for the barenness of the conclusion, wou'd then have allowed it, a very natural Close.

Gildon, English Dramatick Poets, p. 145: This Play was received with mighty applause. Cibber, Apology, 1, 216: This Play (the Relapse) from its new and easy Turn of Wit, had great Success, and gave me, as a Comedian, a second Flight of Reputation along with it.

Monday 23 DL

THE RELAPSE. See 21 Nov. 1696.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. The fact that Lady Morley saw a performance on 25 Nov. 1696 and that the play was a success suggests a run of at least six performances.

THE RELAPSE. Edition of 1697: Prologue on the Third Day, Spoken by Mrs Tuesday 24 DL Verbruggen. See 21 Nov. 1696.