LIF

COMMENT. Betterton's Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but the fact that the play was advertised in the Post Man, 24-26 June 1697, suggests that it was probably first acted not later than May 1697, and there is no specific indication of a première earlier than May. In Songs Compleat, 1719, the music for one song is attributed to Croft.

Wednesday 5 LW

CONCERT. Every Wednesday for the ensuing Season . . . Vocal and Instrumental Musick, consisting of about Thirty Instruments and Voices, after the method of the Musick meeting in York Buildings . . . Each person being to pay for coming in but one shilling, to begin at half after an hour after Two, and no person to be admitted after Three. The first performance was on Wednesday last (Post Boy, 11 May 1697).

Saturday 8 DI.

A PLOT AND NO PLOT. [By John Dennis.] Edition of 1697: Prologue, Spoken by Joe Hains. Bull Sr - Dogget; Bull Jr - Cibber; Belvil - Harland; Baldernoe -Penkethman; Rumour - Hains; Macfleet - Lee; A very young Beau - Miss Allison; Sylvia - Mrs Rogers; Frowzy - Bullock; Friskit - Mrs Kent. Epilogue, Spoken by Miss Allison, who acted the Beau.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance. Hotson, Commonwealth and Restoration Stage, p. 377: Lady Morley and one in the Box at Plott and noe Plott 8s. [There is no certainty that this performance is the première; since the play was advertised in the Post Man, 25-27 May 1697, the first performance may have been late April or very early May.]

Preface, Edition of 1697: As for the Spectators, tho, by reason of the advanc'd Season, and the extremity of the heat, which when the Play was first acted was intolerable, we have not had such numerous assemblies as might have been expected in Winter; yet as long as I have known the Play-house I never saw the Company there in better humour.

A Comparison Between the Two Stages (1702), pp. 18-19: Ramble: Oh, that's Dennis's; and a very regular Farce, tho' he calls it a Comedy. Sullen: I think it did pretty well; 'tis laboriously Writ, as everything of his is: There's an Air of Formality in the Play agreeable to the slovenly Air in his Behaviour.

Thursday 13 YB

CONCERT.

COMMENT. London Gazette, No. 3286, 6-10 May 1697: Thursday next, being the 13th Instant, will be perform'd in York Buildings, an Entertainment of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, Composed by Dr Staggins.

Monday 24 DL

AESOP. [By John Vanbrugh.] See December 1696.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance. Hotson, Commonwealth and Restoration Stage, p. 377: Lady Morley and two in the Box at Esopp 12s.

Tuesday 25 [DG]

THE TEMPEST. [Altered from William Shakespeare by Thomas Shadwell.] Cast

COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance. Hotson, Commonwealth and Restoration Stage, p. 377: Lady Morley and one in the Pitt att the Tempest 3s.

DI.

Wednesday 26 DON SEBASTIAN. [By John Dryden.] Cast not known.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance. Hotson, Commonwealth and Restoration Stage, p. 377: Lady Morley and flour in the Box att Don Sebastian £1.

CONCERT. For the benefit of the composer (Post Boy, 25 May 1697). LW

