Tuesday 12 DL, LIF wrestling, boxing, cudgelling, fighting at back-sword, quarter-staff, bear-baiting, and all the other noble exercises that divert the good folk at Hockley; for when once such an infection as this has gain'd ground upon us, who can tell where it will stop?

What a wretched pass is this wicked age come to, when Ben. Johnson and Shakespear won't relish without these bagatelles to recommend them, and nothing but farce and grimace will go down? For my part, I wonder they have not incorporated parson Burgess into their society; for after the auditors are stupify'd with a dull scene or so, he would make a shift to relieve them. In short, Mr Collier may save himself the trouble of writing against the theatre; for, if these lewd practices are not laid aside, and sense and wit don't come into play again, a man may easily foretell, without pretending to the gift of prophecy, that the stage will be short-liv'd, and the strong Kentish man will take possession of the two play-houses, as he has already done of that in Dorset-Garden (The Works of Thomas Brown, 4th ed. [London, 1715], I, 216-18).

Friday 6 DL COMMENT. According to Sir Edward Smith's bill (see Hotson, Commonwealth and Restoration Stage, p. 308) Rich's company acted 218 times between 6 Oct. 1699 and 26 July 1700, and the young actors played 15 times from 26 July 1700 to 12 Oct. 1700.

Tuesday 24 DL THE COMMITTEE. [By Sir Robert Howard.] Cast not known.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance: Lady

Morley and one in the Box att the Comitee. 8s. See Hotson, Commonwealth and Restoration Stage, p. 377.

Saturday 28 DL THE TRAYTOR. [Presumably by Anthony Rivers.] Cast not known.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance: Lady Morley in the Box at the Traytor. 4s. See Hotson, Commonwealth and Restoration Stage, p. 377.

Monday 30 City THE TRIUMPHS OF LONDON: For the Inauguration of the Right Honourable Sir Richard Levett, Kt. Lord Mayor of the City of London. Containing a Description of the Pageants, together with the Publick Speaches, and the whole Solemnity of the Day. Perform'd on Monday the 30th day of October, Anno 1699. All set forth at the proper cost and charges of the Honourable Company of Haberdashers. [By Elkanah Settle.]

COMMENT. The Lord Mayor's Day pageants.

November 1699

Friday 4 At Court CONCERT.

COMMENT. Luttrell, A Brief Relation, IV, 518-79: This day being the anniversary of the kings birth... there was also a fine ball at St. James to conclude the solemnity, where the king was present: their royal highnesses the prince and princesse dined with his majestie at Kensington, who all the while were diverted with a fine consort of musick; and Mr Tate, the poet laureat, presented the king with a curious ode.

Tuesday 7 LIF FRIENDSHIP IMPROVED; or, The Female Warriour. [By Charles Hopkins.] Edition of 1700: Prologue. Epilogue. Zoilus – Betterton; Maherbal – Verbruggen; Archias – Arnold; Semanthe – Mrs Barry; Cyllene – Mrs Moore; Locris – Mrs Bracegirdle; Orythia – Mrs Porter.



COMMENT. Betterton's Company. This performance is known by a letter of John Dryden to Mrs Steward, 7 Nov. 1699: There is this day to be acted a New tragedy, made by Mr Hopkins, & as I believe in rhime. He has formerly written a play in verse calld Boadicea, which you fair Ladyes likd: & is a poet who writes good verses without knowing how, or why; I mean he writes naturally well, without art or learning, or good sence (The Letters of John Dryden, p. 124). The Dedication to the play is dated I Nov. 1699, but the play was not advertised until, apparently, in the Post Man, 17-20 Feb. 1699/1700.

Tuesday 7

COMMENT. Post Boy, No. 716, 7-9 Nov. 1699: We hear that Monsieur Nivelong, the Famous Grotesque Dancer, is lately arrived from Paris, and that he designs to appear shortly on one of our English Stages.

Thursday 9 [DL or LIF]

THE HISTORY AND FALL OF CAIUS MARIUS. [By Thomas Otway.]

Cast not known.

Saturday 11

COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance: Lady Morley and two in the Box at Caius Marius. 12s. See Hotson, Commonwealth and Restoration Stage, p. 378.

On this night occurred a quarrel between Henry Arthur and one Barry of the playhouses. See *Post Boy*, 11-14 Nov. 1699, and other news accounts during November 1699.

COMMENT. According to the London Post, 24-27 Nov. 1699, William Joye, a strong man showing dexterities of strength, performed before The King at Kensington.

Wednesday 15
At Court

THE ORPHAN. [By Thomas Otway.] Cast not known.

Tuesday 21 DL

COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance: Lady Morley and two in the Box at the Orphan. 12s. See Hotson, Commonwealth and Restoration Stage, p. 378.

CONCERT.

Wednesday 22

COMMENT. London Gazette, No. 3549, 13-16 Nov. 1699: The Anniversary of the Society of Gentlemen, Lovers of Musick, will be kept at Stationers-hall on Wednesday next the 22d Instant, being St. Cecilia's Day.

Saturday 25

ENTERTAINMENTS. By the Kentish Strong Man.

COMMENT. Luttrell, A Brief Relation, IV, 586: This day the strong Kentish man was shewn at the play house in Dorset Garden, where he drew against a horse, and lifted 20 hundred weight: the boxes 10s. apeice, and the pit 5s. [Other accounts are in a newsletter in the Burney Collection (British Museum) and in the Post Man, 25–28 Nov. 1699.]

Sunday 26 LIF

COMMENT. John Dryden to Mrs Steward, 26 Nov. 1699: If you come up next Week, you will be entertaind with a New Tragedy; which the Author of it, one Mr Dennis, cryes up at an Excessive rate, & Colonel Codrington, who has seen it, prepares the world to give it loud Applauses. Tis calld Iphigenia, & Imitated from Eurypides, an old Greek poet. This is to be Acted at Betterton's House, & another play of the same name, is very shortly to come on the stage in Drury Lane (The Letters of John Dryden, p. 129).

Tuesday 28 DL

THE CONSTANT COUPLE; or, A Trip to the Jubilee. [By George Farquhar.] Edition of 1700: Prologue, By a Friend. Epilogue, Spoken by Mr Wilks. Sir Harry Wildair – Wilks; Standard – Powel; Vizard – Mills; Smugler – Johnson; Clincher Sr – Pinkethman; Clincher Jr – Bullock; Dicky – Norris; Tom Errand – Haines; Lurewell – Mrs Verbruggen; Lady Darling – Mrs Powell; Angelica – Mrs Rogers; Parly – Mrs Moor.

