*Monday 8* LIF COMMENT. Receipts: £26 9s. 6d. Probable attendance: boxes, 33 paid and 9 orders; pit, 57 paid and 21 orders; slips, 4 paid and 3 orders; first gallery, 79 paid and 33 orders; second gallery, 99 paid and 4 orders.

Tuesday 9 DL DOUBLE FALSEHOOD. Julio - Booth; but see 19 Dec. 1727. With the Coronation Scene.

COMMENT. Egerton 2320: The last time Mr Booth Plaid.

Wednesday 10

THE PROVOK'D HUSBAND; or, A Journey to London. Cast not listed, but edition of 1728 lists: Lord Townly – Wilks; Lady Townly – Mrs Oldfield; Lady Grace – Mrs Porter; Manly – Mills; Sir Francis Wronghead – Cibber; Lady Wronghead – Mrs Thurmond; Squire Richard – Young Wetherilt; Jenny – Mrs Cibber; John Moody – Miller; Count Basset – Bridgwater; Mrs Motherly – Mrs Moore; Myrtilla – Mrs Grace; Mrs Trusty – Mrs Mills. Prologue spoken by Wilks. Epilogue spoken by Mrs Oldfield.

COMMENT. [By Sir John Vanbrugh and Colley Cibber.] All the Characters new drest.

Mist's 13 Jan.: On Wednesday last a most horrid, barbarous, and cruel Murder was committed . . . upon a posthumous Child of the late Sir John Vanbroog, by one who, for some Time past, has gone by the Name of Keyber. It was a fine Child born, and would certainly have lived long, had it not fallen into such cruel Hands. Davies (Dramatic Miscellanies, III, 260-61): In all the tumults and disturbances of the theatre on the first night of a new play, which was formerly a time of more dangerous service, to the actors, than it has been of late, Mrs Oldfield was entirely mistress of herself; she thought it her duty, amidst the most violent opposition and uproar, to exert the utmost of her abilities to serve the author. In the comedy of the Provoked Husband, Cibber's enemies tried all their power to get the play condemned. The reconciliation scene wrought so effectually upon the sensible and generous part of the audience, that the conclusion was greatly and generously approved. Amidst a thousand applauses, Mrs Oldfield came forward to speak the epilogue; but when she had pronounced the first line,-Methinks I hear some powder'd critic say—a man, of no distinguished appearance, from the seat next to the orchestra, saluted her with a hiss. She fixed her eye upon him immediately, made a very short pause, and spoke the words poor creature! loud enough to be heard by the audience, with such a look of mingled scorn, pity, and contempt, that the most uncommon applause justified her conduct in this particular, and the poor reptile sunk down with fear and trembling.

See also Cibber, Apology, I, 310-11; Victor, History of the Theatres, II, 105.

LIF

THE CONFEDERACY. Cast not listed. Also THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE. As 9 Nov. 1727.

COMMENT. Receipts: £87 191. Probable attendance: boxes, 78 paid and 20 orders; stage, 3 paid; pit, 206 paid and 55 orders; slips, 14 paid and 8 orders; first gallery, 226 paid and 32 orders; second gallery, 118 paid and 6 orders.

Thursday 11

THE PROVOK'D HUSBAND. Cast not listed, but see 10 Jan.

LIF

THE MISTAKE. Cast not listed. Also THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE. As 9 Nov. 1727.

COMMENT. Mainpiece: Written by the late Sir John Vanbrugh. Receipts: £38 75. Probable attendance: boxes, 19 paid and 9 orders; pit, 105 paid and 18 orders; slips, 2 paid and 3 orders; first gallery, 115 paid and 28 orders; second gallery, 57 paid and 8 orders.

Friday 12 DL THE PROVOK'D HUSBAND. Cast not listed, but see 10 Jan. COMMENT. For a comment on the play, see Daily Journal, 12 Jan.

