

- DG *Rare en Tout* on 29 May 1677, probably was acted in June 1677. The Prologue also refers to the comedy as "The Women's Play," suggesting that it was produced for the actresses' annual benefit.
- Friday 8
DG A FOND HUSBAND. See 31 May 1677.
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/143, p. 162. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 349. It is likely that this comedy was played on each acting day from 31 May to 8 June 1677.
- Mid-June
DL WITS LED BY THE NOSE; or, A Poet's Revenge. [By William Chamberlayne.]
Edition of 1678: Prologue, Intended to be spoke by Sir Symon Credulous, Written by F. W. Gent. Antellus – Goodman; Oroandes – Lydell; Zannazarro – Perrin; Arratur – Watson; Vanlore – Powel; Sir Symon Credulous – Haynes; Sir Jasper Sympleton – Stiles; Jack Drayner – Nathaniel Q: [Cue]; Dick Slywit – Coysh; Heroina – Mrs Baker Jr; Glorianda – Mrs Bowtell; Amasia – Mrs Baker; Theocrine – Mrs F [arlee]. Epilogue.
COMMENT. The King's Company. The date of the first production is uncertain, but John Harold Wilson ("Six Restoration Play-Dates," pp. 221-22) assigns it to mid-June primarily because of the Prologue intended to be spoken by Haines and the order, dated 18 June 1677, for the arrest of Haines for speaking an obscene Epilogue (error for Prologue?); in addition, the next play at Drury Lane, *The Rival Kings*, refers to Haines and "last time," establishing the sequence of performance of these two plays. For the arrest of Haines, see Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 328n. *Wits Led by the Nose* was licensed for printing on 16 Aug. 1677.
- Late June
DL THE RIVAL KINGS; or, The Loves of Oroondates and Statira. [By John Banks.]
Edition of 1677: Prologue. No actors' names.
COMMENT. The King's Company. The date of the first production is not known, but see the discussion of *Wits Led by the Nose*, mid-June 1677, for the relationship of the two plays. *The Rival Kings* was entered, and deleted, in the *Stationers' Register*, 26 July 1678; but because the play was entered in the *Term Catalogues*, November 1677, it seems likely that its premiere occurred in 1677.

July 1677

- DG THE CONSTANT NYMPH; or, The Rambling Shepheard. *Author not known.*
Edition of 1678: Prologue, Spoken by Mrs Lee, in Mans Cloaths. Sylvanus – Sandford; Astatius – Mrs Mary Lee; Philisides – Mrs Barry; Traumatius – Medburn; Ismenius – Gillo; Melibeus – Jevon; Lilla – Mrs Norris; Astrea – Mrs Wyn [Anne Quin]; Alveria – Mrs Batterton; Clinias – Richards; Darmetas – Pursevall. Epilogue, Spoken by Clinias.
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of the first production is not known, but the licensing of the play on 13 Aug. 1677 suggests a production not later than July 1677.
Dedication to edition of 1678: But having . . . suffer'd so much through the defects of setting off, when it came on the Stage, it dares not now reject any Accomodation the Press can give it. For (with the Theaters good leave to speak Truth,) it cannot receive greater Disadvantage in the Reading, than it met in the Presenting, The chief Parts Acted by Women; and, for their Ease, and somewhat of decorum, as was pretended, whole scenes left out, and scarcely any one Speech unmangled and entire. As for Adornments, in Habit, Musick, and Scene-Work, it was Vacation-time, and the Company would not venture the Charge.

- COMMENT. John Dryden to Lord Latimer, July 1677: But the Kings Comedy [probably *Mr Limberbam*] lyes in the Sudds till you please to send me into Northamptonshyre: it will be almost such another piece of business as the fond Husband, for such the King will have it, who is parcell poet with me in the plott; one of the designes being a story he was pleas'd formerly to tell me; and therefore I hope he will keep the jeast in countenance by laughing at it. . . . I have a farther honour to beg, that my Tragedy [*All for Love*], which will be acted at Michaelmasse, & is already written, may have the honour to be addressed to my Lord Treasurer; & that your Lordship and My Lord Mulgrave will I hope beg together for me (*The Letters of John Dryden*, ed. Ward, pp. 11-12). DL
- THE SULLEN LOVERS; or, The Impertinents. [By Thomas Shadwell.] *Cast not known.* Saturday 28
DG
- COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/143, p. 162. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 349.
- COMMENT. The King's Company suffered from internal disagreements during this portion of the summer. For details, see L. C. 5/142, p. 98, in Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 326, and Thaler, *Shakspeare to Sberidan*, p. 291. Monday 30
DL

August 1677

- COMMENT. *The Diary of Robert Hooke*: With [John] Oliver saw tigre in Bartholomew fair 2d. Saw the child doe strange tricks. Monday 27
BF
- COMMENT. *The Diary of Robert Hooke*: Saw the Dutch woeman in Bartholomew fair, very strange. Thursday 30
BF