

- Monday 17*  
At Court COMMENT. Henry Savile to the Earl of Rochester, 17 Dec. 1677: I had almost forgott for another argument to bring you to towne that a French troop of comaedians bound for Nimeguen were by adverse winds cast into this hospitable port and doe act at Whitehall soe very well that it is a thousand pittyes they should not stay, especially a young wench of fifteen, who has more beauty and sweetnesse than ever was seen upon the stage since a friend of ours left it (HMC, Bath MSS., 1907, II, 161). W. J. Lawrence ("Early French Players in England," pp. 148-49) identifies the French actress as Francoise Pitel, later Mlle Raisin.
- Wednesday 26*  
DL THE RIVAL QUEENS; or, Alexander the Great. [By Nathaniel Lee.] *Cast not known.* For a previous cast, see 17 March 1676/7.  
COMMENT. The King's Company. This performance is known from a document in *The Theatrical Inquisitor and Montbly Mirror*, July 1816, p. 26, and in Fitzgerald, *A New History*, I, 145. This document lists the receipts and attendance: The King's box, £1 10s., possibly six persons; Mr Hayles' boxes, £2 16s., possibly 14 persons; Mr Mohun's boxes, £3 16s., possibly 19 persons; Mr Yate's boxes, £1 15s. 6d., possibly 9 persons; James' boxes, £2 4s., possibly 11 persons. Mr Kent's pit, 112 persons; and Mr Britan's pit, 79 persons; a total of 191 persons paying £23 17s. 6d. Mr Bracy's gallery, 100 persons; Mr Johnson's gallery, 44 persons; a total of 144 persons, paying £10 16s. Upper Gallery, 119 persons, paying £5 19s. Mrs Kempton (upper gallery?), 5s. The house rent is listed as £5 14s. The attendance appears to total at least 513 persons. Compare these data with those for 12 Dec. 1677.

## January 1678

- DG THE HISTORY OF TIMON OF ATHENS, THE MAN-HATER. [By Thomas Shadwell.] Edition of 1678: Prologue to Timon. Timon of Athens – Betterton; Alcibiades – Smith; Apemantus – Harris; Nicias – Sandford; Phaeax – Underhill; Aelius – Leigh; Cleon – Norris; Isander – Percival; Isidore – Gillo; Demetrius – Medburne; Dephilus – Bowman; Old Man – Richards; Poet – Jevon; Evandra – Mrs Betterton; Melissa – Mrs Shadwell; Chloe – Mrs Gibbs; Thais – Mrs Seymour; Phinias – Mrs Le-Grand. Epilogue.  
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of the premiere is not known, but a licensing date of 18 Feb. 1677/8 suggests a premiere not later than January 1677/8. It is possible, however, that this play followed *Sir Patient Fancy* (17 Jan. 1677/8), as the licensing date of *Timon* follows that for *Sir Patient Fancy*. Part of the music for *Timon* was composed by Louis Grabu and was published, without the singers' names, in *Choice Ayres and Songs*, 1679.  
Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 37): *Timon of Athens*, alter'd by Mr Shadwell; 'twas very well Acted, and the Musick in't well Perform'd; it wonderfully pleas'd the Court and City; being an Excellent Moral.
- Thursday 17*  
DG SIR PATIENT FANCY. [By Mrs Aphra Behn.] Edition of 1678: Prologue, Spoken by Mr Betterton. Sir Patient Fancy – Anthony Leigh; Leander Fancy – Crosby; Wittmore – Betterton; Lodwick Knowell – Smith; Sir Credulous Easy – Nokes; Curry – Richards; Lady Fancy – Mrs Corrar; Lady Knowell – Mrs Gwin [Quin]; Lucretia – Mrs Price; Isabella – Mrs Betterton; Maundy – Mrs Gibbs. Epilogue, spoken by Mrs Gwin [Quin].  
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/145, p. 120. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 349. There is no certainty that this is the first performance, but a licensing date of 28 Jan. 1677/8 and Mrs Behn's

*Saturday 2* COMMENT. The King's Company apparently acted an unnamed play on this  
*IT* occasion. See *A Calendar of the Inner Temple Records*, III, 127.

*Wednesday 13*

ASH WEDNESDAY

*Late February* THE RAMBLING JUSTICE; or, The Jealous Husbands: With the Humours of  
*DL* Sir John Twiford. [By John Leaner.] Edition of 1678: Prologue, Spoken by  
 Flora. Sir Arthur Twilight – Powell; Sir Generall Amorous – Wilshire; Contentious  
 Surly – Disney; Sir Geoffrey Jolt – Perrin; John Twiford – Powre; Spywell –  
 Mr Q [Cue]; Bramble – Coysh; Eudoria – Mrs Farlee; Petulant Easy – Mrs  
 Merchant; Emilia – Mrs Bates; Flora – Mrs Cook. Epilogue spoken by Sir Arthur.

COMMENT. The King's Company. The date of the first production is not  
 known, but the licensing date of 13 March 1677/8 suggests a late February  
 premiere. In addition, the many names of minor performers point to a Lenten  
 performance. The Prologue also speaks of it as a "Lenten Play."

### March 1678

*DG* TUNBRIDGE WELLS; or, A Day's Courtship. *Author not certain.* Edition of  
*DL* 1678: Prologue. No actors' names. Epilogue.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of the first production is not  
 known. It was not entered in the *Term Catalogues* until May 1678, but the very  
 large number of new plays acted by the Duke's Company in the spring of 1678,  
 many of them more precisely dated, makes it probable that this was an early  
 spring production which had title success. The title page states: Written by  
 a Person of Quality. Langbaine (*English Dramatick Poets*, 1691, p. 554) ascribes it  
 to "Mr Rawlins." A Library of Congress copy has on the title page: "by L. Baker."

*DL* THE MAN OF NEWMARKET. [By Edward Howard.] Edition of 1678: The  
 Induction. Enter Prologue at one Door; and just as he addresses to speak, enter  
 Shatteril and Haines at t'other. The Prologue, Spoke by Mr Clarke. Passal –  
 Wiltshire; Maldrin – Birt; Sir Ral. Nonsuch – Powel; Whiffler – Haines; Swiftspur –  
 Clark; Trainsted – Goodman; Bowser – Griffin; Plodwell – Perin; Breakbond –  
 Moon [Mohun]; Pricknote – Cash [Coysh]; Clevly – Mrs Corbit; Jocalin – Mrs  
 Baker; Quickthrift – Mrs Corey; Luce – Mrs Farle. The Epilogue, Spoke by Mrs  
 Baker.

COMMENT. The King's Company. The date of the premiere is not known,  
 but a licensing date of 13 April 1678 suggests a production in March. This play  
 is entered ahead of *Trick for Trick* primarily because the latter has a slightly later  
 licensing date.

*DL* TRICK FOR TRICK; or, The Debauch'd Hypocrite. [By Thomas D'Urfey.]  
 Edition of 1678: Prologue, Spoken by Mr Haines in a Red Coat like a Common  
 Souldier. Sir Wilding Frollick – Mohun; Monsieur Thomas – Hart; Valentine –  
 Griffin; Franck – Clark; Hylas – Goodman; Sir Peregreen – Powell; Launce –  
 Haynes; Physicians – Watson, Coysh, Perin; Cellida – Mrs Boutell; Sabina –  
 Mrs Corbett; Lucilla – Mrs Merchant; A Whore – Mrs Farlee; Mrs Dorothy –  
 Mrs Knepp. Epilogue, by Mr Mohun.

COMMENT. The King's Company. The date of the first production is not  
 known. As the licensing date for this play was 30 April 1678, it probably was acted  
 before Easter, but it may have had its first production immediately after Easter,  
 Sunday 31 March 1678.