

THE MASSACRE OF PARIS. [By Nathaniel Lee.] Edition of 1690: Prologue by Mr Mountfort. King Charles IX – Mountfort; Duke of Guise – Williams; Cardinal of Lorraine – Kynaston; Duke of Anjou – Pruet; Alberto Gondi – Harris; Lignoroles – Bowen; Admiral of France – Betterton; Cavagnes – Freeman; Langoiran – Alexander [Verbruggen (?)]; Queen Mother – Mrs Betterton; Marguerite – Mrs Barry; Queen of Navarre – Mrs Knight; Antramont – Mrs Jorden; Genius – Bowman. Epilogue by Mr Powell. Thursday 7
DL

COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/149, p. 368: The Queene a Box & a Box for the Maids of Honor at y^e Massacre of Paris. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 352. The date of the first performance is not known, but as it was entered in the *Term Catalogues*, November 1689, it was probably first acted in early November or in October 1689. A song, "Thy Genius lo!" composed by Henry Purcell, is in *Orpheus Britannicus*, 1698. Possibly it was sung by Bowman. See also *The Works of Henry Purcell*, Purcell Society, xx (1916), xviii–xix.

COMMENT. *London Gazette*, No 2500, 24–28 Oct. 1699: Whereas the Consort of Musick, lately in Bow-street, being remov'd to York Buildings, intended to have begun this present Munday, but upon an urgent occasion, are forc'd to defer it till the Monday after the King's Birth-day, being the 11th of November, and so continue every Munday for the future. [See also 17 Oct. 1689.] Monday 11
YB

CONCERT.

COMMENT. *London Gazette*, No 2504, 7–11 Nov. 1689: The Consorts of Musick that, for some extraordinary occasions have been discontinued, shall be performed in York-buildings upon Thursday next, being the 14th instant, and every Thursday after. Thursday 14
YB

A JOVIAL CREW. [By Richard Brome.] *Cast not known*. The Prologue to King William & Queen Mary, At a Play Acted before Their Majesties at Whitehall, on Friday the 15th of November 1689. Written by N. Tate. Friday 15
At Court

COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/149, p. 368. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 352. The Prologue, separately printed, bears a licensing date of 16 Nov. 1689, and is reprinted in Wiley, *Rare Prologues and Epilogues*, pp. 276–77.

Huygens, 15 Nov. 1689 OS (translation): The King, who had been at the comedy, at the birthday of the Queen-mother, which had been played at Whitehall, did not come home until twelve o'clock (*Journal van Constantijn Huygens*, Publications of the Dutch Historical Society, New Series, xxiii [Utrecht, 1876], 205).

THE WIDOW RANTER; or, The History of Bacon in Virginia. [By Mrs Aphra Behn.] Edition of 1690: Prologue, By Mr Dryden, [Spoken by a Woman]. Cavarnio – Bowman; Bacon – Williams; Col. Wellman – Freeman; Col. Downright – Harris; Hazard – Alexander [Verbruggen (?)]; Friendly – Powell; Dareing – Sandford; Fearless – Cudworth; Dullman – Bright; Timerous Cornet – Underhill; Whimsey – Trefuse; Whiff – Bowen; Boozer – Barns; Semernia – Mrs Bracegirdle; Madame Surelove – Mrs Knight; Mrs Crisante – Mrs Jorden; Widow Ranter – Mrs Currer; Mrs Flirt – Mrs Cory; Petitioner – Blunt; Parson Dunce – Baker. The Epilogue, Spoken by a Woman. Wednesday 20
DL

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is uncertain, but the Prologue and Epilogue, printed separately, bear a licensing date of 20 Nov. 1689. Luttrell's copy of the Prologue and Epilogue (in the possession of Mr Louis Silver, Wilmette, Illinois, who kindly permits me to use his dating) bears his date of acquisition: 25 Nov. 1689. The Prologue and Epilogue are reprinted in Wiley, *Rare Prologues and Epilogues*, pp. 283–85.

- Wednesday 20*
DL
Dedication, Edition of 1690: The Play had not that Success which it deserv'd. . . . The main fault ought to lye on those who had the management of it. Had our Authour been alive she would have Committed it to the Flames rather than suffer'd it to have been Acted with such Omissions as was made. . . . And Lastly, many of the Parts being false Cast, and given to those whose Tallants and Genius's suited not our Authors Intention.
- Thursday 28*
[DL or DG] [THE COMMITTEE. By Sir Robert Howard.] *Cast not known.*
COMMENT. The United Company. A somewhat puzzling entry in the Reverend Robert Kirk's description of London in 1689 implies a performance of *The Committee* undertaken but not completed: At a play in Whitehall King Charles, his tragedy, when the actors were come to that part of seducing King Charles II, some Williamites in the pit below hissed at it (as if the play had meant the like of King James in Ireland). At this there sprang such huzzas and holloes above applauding that part of the play, that it was in a confusion, and they durst pursue it no further, lest the two parties made violence one upon another. Two or three noblemen were remarked to be forward in the acclamations of joy, and therefore are looked on as Jacobites. The play's name is *The Committee*, November 28, 1689 (*Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archeological Society*, New Series, VI, 655).

December 1689

- Chelsea DIDO AND AENEAS. [The verse by Nahum Tate; the music by Henry Purcell.] Performed by the Gentlewomen of Josias Priest's Boarding School in Chelsea. Prologue, Spoken by the Lady Dorothy Buck.
COMMENT. The date of this amateur performance is not known, but the date generally accepted is December 1689. See Alfred Loewenberg, *The Annals of Opera*, Second Edition, Columns 85-86; and R. E. Moore, *Henry Purcell and the Restoration Theatre* (Cambridge, Mass., 1961), pp. 38-69. The Epilogue is in *New Poems* (1690).
- Wednesday 4*
DL DON SEBASTIAN. [By John Dryden.] Edition of 1690: Prologue, Sent to the Author by an Unknown Hand, and Proposed to be Spoken by Mrs Mountfort, Dressed like an Officer. Prologue, Spoken by a Woman. Don Sebastian - Williams; Muley Moluch - Kynaston; Dorax - Betterton; Benducar - Sandford; Mufti - Underhill; Muley Zeydan - Powell Jr; Don Antonio - Betterton [an error; corrected in 1692 edition to Mountfort]; Don Alvarez - Bowman; Mustapha - Leigh; Almeyda - Mrs Barry; Morayma - Mrs Montfort; Johayma - Mrs Leigh. Epilogue, Spoken betwixt Antonio and Morayma.
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/149, p. 368: The Queene a Box, and a Box for the Maids Honor at Don Sebastian King of Portugal. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 352. There is no certainty that this is the first performance. The play was entered in the *Stationers' Register*, 15 Dec. 1689. See also Charles E. Ward, *The Life of John Dryden* (Chapel Hill, N. C., 1961), pp. 242-46.
Preface, Edition of 1690: I am . . . to acknowledge, with all manner of gratitude, their civility; who were pleas'd to endure it with so much patience. . . . Above twelve hundred lines have been cut off from this tragedy since it was first deliver'd to the actors. They were indeed so judiciously lopt by Mr Betterton, to whose care and excellent action I am equally oblig'd, that the connexion of the story was not lost.