

LIF According to the Edition of 1696, the music was set by John Eccles: "Come, Thyrsis, come" was sung by Reading and Mrs Hodgson; the other songs in the edition lack the names of the singers. In addition, "Rich mines of hot love are rooted here," sung by Bowman, was in *Deliciae Musicae*, The First Book of the Second Volume, 1696; and "Let us revel and roar," set by John Eccles and sung by Curco and Reading, was published in *Thesaurus Musicus*, The Fifth Book, 1696.

Downes, *Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 44: *Lovers Luck*, a Comedy, Wrote by Captain Dilks, which fill'd the House 6 Days together, and above 50 £ the 8th, the Day it was left off. *A Comparison Between the Two Stages* (1702), p. 20, lists it among the plays under the heading: Damn'd.

Monday 9 [DL or LIF] LOVE IN A TUB. [*The Comical Revenge*. By Sir George Etherege.] *Cast not known*.

COMMENT. It is not known in which theatre this revival occurred. It was witnessed by van Constantijn Huygens, Monday 19 Dec. 1695 N.S. [translation]: In the afternoon I was at the comedy with my wife and Mrs Creitsmar. They played an old show called: The Love in the Tubb (*Publications of the Dutch Historical Society*, New Series, xxv [Utrecht, 1877], 560).

Wednesday 11
A FAST DAY

Mid-December LIF CYRUS THE GREAT; or, The Tragedy of Love. [By John Banks.] Edition of 1696: Prologue to Her Royal Highness. Cyrus the Great – Betterton; Cyaxares – Smith; Hystaspes – Kynaston; Craesus – Bowman; Abradatas – Hudson; Artabasis – Thurmond; Thomyris – Mrs Bowtell; Panthea – Mrs Barry; Lausaria – Mrs Bracegirdle. Epilogue, Spoken by the Boy and Girl, by way of Dialogue.

COMMENT. Betterton's Company. The date of the first performance is not certain, but contemporary sources refer to the fact that William Smith, who died in the last week of December, fell ill on the fourth day of its run; hence, it probably was first presented in mid-December. One song, "O take him gently from the pile," set by John Eccles and sung by Mrs Bracegirdle, is in *Deliciae Musicae*, The Fourth Book, 1696.

Downes, *Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 44: *The Grand Cyrus*, wrote by Mr Banks; it was a good Play; but Mr Smith, having a long part in it, fell Sick upon the Fourth Day and Dy'd, upon that it lay by, and ne'er has bin Acted since. Gildon, *English Dramatick Poets*, p. 6: Tho' this Play had been formerly refus'd the Action, yet it held up its Head about Six Days together, and has been since Acted several Times. *A Comparison Between the Two Stages: Sullen*, p. 16: Banks's, which the Players damn'd and wou'd not Act of a great while, but at length it was acted, and damn'd then in manner and form.

Holidays WS CLEOMENES. [By John Dryden.] By the students of the Westminster School. Prologue, Written by Matthew Prior, Spoken by Lord Bathurst, at Westminster School, At a Representation of Mr Dryden's *Cleomenes, the Spartan Hero*, at Christmas, 1695.

COMMENT. For the Prologue, see Prior, *Dialogues of the Dead*, ed. A. R. Waller (Cambridge, 1907), p. 195. It is not certain on which day during the holidays the play was given.

Saturday 28 LIF COMMENT. *Flying Post*, 26-28 Dec. 1695: Mr William Smith, a Gentleman, belonging to the Theatre Royal, who had acquired a considerable Estate, and thereupon desisted from Acting, was prevailed upon by the New Play house to remount the Stage; but upon shifting his cloathes in the last New Play, took cold and died thereof this week. [See *Cyrus the Great*, mid-December.]