

- Saturday 9*
DL OROONOKO. [By Thomas Southerne.] See November 1695.
COMMENT. Rich's Company. *Post Boy*, No 496, 7-9 July 1698: This day is acted *Oroonoko*, at the King's Playhouse, for the particular Entertainment of some Persons of the highest Quality, with the Italian Shades, as they were perform'd with great Applause, before their Excellencies the Russian and Morocco Ambassadors, in the Reign of King Charles II. And an Entertainment after the manner of the Carnival at Rome. With several Grotesque Dances.
- Monday 11*
LIF THE MAID'S TRAGEDY. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.] *Cast not known*, but possibly Betterton played Melantius.
COMMENT. Betterton's Company. A playbill for this performance was once in the possession of Thomas Hailes Lacy (1809-73); Fitzgerald, *A New History*, I, 389, refers to it; the playbill seems no longer to be extant.
- Wednesday 13*
[DL or LIF] COMMENT. James Brydges, *Diary*: I went to y^e Playhouse, where I met my Brother Frank, Sr. Richard Sanford, & Ld Huntinton, I staid about an act (Huntington Library MS St 26).

August 1698

- Monday 8*
Richmond CONCERT.
COMMENT. *Post Boy*, No 507, 2-4 Aug. 1698: In the Walks of the New Wells in Richmond, on Monday next, the 8th of August, will be Perform'd an Extraordinary Entertainment of Instrumental Music, with Trumpets, Kettle-Drums, Hautboys, Flutes and Violins, after the manner of the Entertainments lately perform'd in the Queen's Garden at Somerset-House; Price of coming in 1s. To begin before 7 a clock in the Evening because the Performance must end by Day-light. The Musick of the Wells will attend to play Dances.
- Tuesday 23*
BF JEPHTHA'S RASH VOW. *Cast not known*.
COMMENT. *Post Boy*, 20-23 Aug. 1698: Jephtha's Rash Vow: Will be play'd again this Bartholomew Fair at Blakes and Penkethman's Booth, over against Hosier Lane. [See also William King, 25 Aug. 1698.]
- Thursday 25*
BF ENTERTAINMENTS.
COMMENT. *Flying Post*, 23-25 Aug. 1698: At Mr Barns's and Mr Appleby's Booth, over against the Cross-Daggers in Smithfield, is to be seen the most famous Rope-Dancers of Europe, who have brought over the Morocco Woman, the two German Maidens, and the Danish Woman and her Company, which out-does all Men and Women that ever danced yet on the Ropes, the German Maiden outdoing all Men and Women, that ever Danc'd before her, both for high leaping and fine Dancing, and whatever has been done by any person on the Ground, as side, upright, cross or back Capers, is performed by her on the Dancing Rope, and rises to that prodigious height, as will startle all that see her.
William King, *A Journey to London in the Year 1698* (2d edition, corrected, 1699), pp. 27-28: I was at Bartholomew Fair. . . . I went to the Dancing on the Ropes, which was admirable. Coming out I met a man that would have took off my Hat, but I secur'd it, and was going to draw my Sword, Crying out, Begar! Damn'd Rogue! Morblew, &c. when on a sudden I had a hundred People about me, Crying here, Monsieur, See *Jephtha's Rash Vow*, here, Monsieur, see the Tall Dutch Woman, see the Tyger, says another; see the Horse and no Horse, whose Tayl stands where his Head should do; see the German Artist, Monsieur; see

the *Siege of Namur*, Monsieur: So that betwixt Rudeness and Civility, I was forc'd
to get into a Fiacre, and with an air of Hast, and a full Trot, got home to my
Lodgings. Thursday 25
BF

September 1698

ENTERTAINMENTS.

COMMENT. *Post Man*, No 515, 15-17 Sept. 1698: At Mr Barnes's and Mr
Appleby's Booth in the Coachyard near St Georges Church, Southwark, during
the space of 14 days, is to be seen the most famous Rope Dancers of Europe, viz.
the English, High German, Dutch, and Morocco Companies, who perform strange
and wonderful things on the Rope, the German Maiden outdoing all Men and
Women, that ever danc'd before her, both for high leaping and fine Dancing,
and whatever has been done by any person on the Ground, as side, upright,
cross or back Capers, is performed by her on the Dancing Rope, and rises to that
prodigious height, as will startle all that see her.

Saturday 17
SF