

## March 1699

- LOVE'S A LOTTERY, AND A WOMAN THE PRIZE: With a New Masque, call'd Love and Riches Reconcil'd. [By Joseph Harris.] Edition of 1699: The Prologue, Writ by a Person of Quality. No actors' names. LIF  
 COMMENT. Rich's Company. The date of the première is not known, but as the play was advertised in the *Post Man*, 25-27 May 1699, it may have been acted before Easter (9 April 1699), certainly by the end of April. Dedication, to the Countess of Burlington: I . . . beg your Ladyship's Protection for a Play which stands rank'd amongst the Unfortunate. . . . [A song, "Loving and beloved again," with music by Samuel Ackroyde, is in *Mercurius Musicus*, 1699.]
- THE DOUBLE DEALER. [By William Congreve.] See October 1693. Saturday 4 [LIF]  
 COMMENT. Betterton's Company. John Dryden to Mrs Steward, 4 March 1698/9: This Day is playd a reviv'd Comedy of Mr Congreve's calld the Double Dealer, which was never very takeing; in the play bill was printed,—Written by Mr Congreve; with Severall Expressions omitted: What kind of Expressions those were you may easily gness; if you have seen the Monday's Gazette, wherein is the Kings Order, for the reformation of the Stage: but the printing an Authours name, in a Play bill, is a new manner of proceeding, at least in England (*Letters of John Dryden*, 112-13).
- CONCERT. Wednesday 8 YB  
 COMMENT. *Flying Post*, 7 March 1698/9: A Consort of all new Vocal and Instrumental Music; for the Benefit of Mr William Hall, who formerly had the Consort of Musick at his House in Norfolk-street.
- CONCERT. Friday 17 YB  
 COMMENT. *Post Boy*, No. 613, 11-14 March 1698/9: At the Request of several Persons of Quality, in York Building, on Friday next the 17th Instant, will be a Consort of new Vocal and Instrumental Musick, for the Benefit of Mr Corbett, Beginning exactly at Eight of the Clock.
- COMMENT. See L. C. 7/3 (Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 382) for an agreement concerning new scenes and machines for a new opera by Settle. Saturday 18 DL
- THE ISLAND PRINCESS. See November 1698. Saturday 25 [DL or DG]  
 COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance: Lady Morley and two in the Box att the Island Princesse. 15s.
- CONCERT. Wednesday 29 YB  
 COMMENT. *Post Man*, 28 March 1699: For the Benefit of Mr Robert Roades . . . a Consort, all new Music, both Vocal and Instrumental: There being no Play at either House.

## April 1699

- LOVE WITHOUT INTEREST; or, The Man Too Hard for the Master. [Attributed to William Penkethman, who signed the Dedication but who may not be the author.] Edition of 1699: Prologue, Spoke by Jo. Hains. Prologue, Design'd to have been spoken by Mr Powel. Epilogue, Spoken by Mr Penkethman, with a Halter about his Neck. Wildman - Powell; Trulove - Mills; Sir Fickle Cheat - Bullock; DL

DL Jonathan – Penkethman; Wrangle – Johnson; Sobersides – Newth; Lurcher – Kent; Eugenia – Mrs Kent; Letitia – Mrs Verbruggen; Honoria – Mrs Rogers; Jenny – Mrs Wilkins.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. The date of the first production is not known, but the fact that the play was advertised in the *Post Boy*, 2-4 May 1699, suggests that the premiere occurred not later than early April.

Monday 3-Saturday 8  
PASSION WEEK

Saturday 8 LIF COMMENT. Luttrell, *A Brief Relation*, IV, 502-3: Monsieur Ballon, the famous French dancing master, (whose father teaches the dauphins 3 sons,) having leave to come hither for 5 weeks, is allowed by the playhouse 400 guineas for that time, besides which the lord Cholmley has sent him a present of 100 more. [Betterton's Company.]

Monday 10 LIF [*Play not known.*]  
COMMENT. *Post Man*, 4-6 April 1699: On Easter Monday, at the New Theatre in Little Lincolns Inn Fields, will be an entertainment of Dancing, performed by Monsieur Balon newly arrived from Paris. [Betterton's Company. See also 8 April 1699.]

Mid-April LIF THE PRINCESS OF PARMA. [By Henry Smith.] Edition of 1699: Prologue. Epilogue, Spoken by Mrs Bracegirdle, Written by Mr Motteux. Doria – Betterton; Zinelli – Scudamore; Grimaldi – Arnold; Spinola – Thurmond; Barbarelli – Verbruggen; Durazzo – Freeman; Almira – Mrs Bracegirdle; Julia – Mrs Barry; Fidelity – Mrs Martin.

COMMENT. Betterton's Company. The date of the first production is not know, but the fact that the play was advertised in the *Post Boy*, 20-23 May 1699, suggests that the première was probably not later than April, possibly just after Easter.

Saturday 15 DL COMMENT. *Post Boy*, 13-15 April 1699: As both the Theatres have been very industrious to Entertain the Town with several eminent Masters in Singing and Dancing, lately arrived, both from France and Italy, as Monsieur Balon, Signior Fideli, &c. we are now assured that the Masters of the Theatre Royal have engag'd Signior Clementine, the famous Eunuch, Servant to the Elector of Bavaria, to Sing on their publick Stage, for the short time of his stay in England. There is very great Expectation from his Performance as being a Person of that extraordinary Desert in Singing, that his yearly Salary on that Account is 500 £. a Year.

Saturday 22 DL, LIF COMMENT. James Brydges, *Diary*: Toward seven . . . to y<sup>e</sup> Playhouse in Lincolns Inn fields; here I saw M<sup>r</sup> Freeman, M<sup>r</sup> Worsely, S<sup>r</sup> Edwd Ernly &c.: from hence I went to y<sup>e</sup> Playhouse in Covent Garden, thinking to have met my Brother Frank, Sister Jacob &c.: there, but did not. I sat with M<sup>r</sup> Cook of Darby, & spoke with M<sup>r</sup> Winninton &c. (Huntington MS ST 26).

Friday 28 YB CONCERT.  
COMMENT. *Post Boy*, 22-25 April 1699: In York-Buildings, on Friday next, being the 28th Instant, will be perform'd a Consort of new Vocal and Instrumental Musick, for the Benefit of Mrs Lyndsey, beginning at the usual Hour.

Saturday 29 DL THE ISLAND PRINCESS. See November 1698.  
COMMENT. Rich's Company. *Post Boy*, 27-29 April 1699: Her Royal Highness is this day pleased to see the Opera, call'd The Island Princess, Performed at the Theatre Royal by her own Command.