

Candiope in this play. As she entered Rich's company in 1699, this play was probably revived early in 1699–1700.

Sir Courtly Nice; or, It Cannot Be. By John Crowne. This play may have been revived in the late part of the season of 1699–1700, for it is mentioned as one of the plays involved in an indictment of the players after 24 June 1700. See Krutch, *Comedy and Conscience*, pp. 175–76.

Sisigambis, Queen of Syracus. The author is not known. A manuscript copy of this play (in Bodleian MS, Rawlinson Poet. 167), presumably dated about 1700, has no actors' names, no prologue, no epilogue.

The Souldier's Fortune. By Thomas Otway. When this play was revived at DL on 28 May 1705, the bill bore the heading: Not Acted these Five Years.

September 1699

COMMENT. Alice Baxter, September 1699: I believe shall be on Munday at a ball at St. James, where, as they tell me, ther is a famos new danser to apere, which is to charme us all, but not make amends for ye loss of Mrs Ibbings [Evans (?)] who danced at Lincolns Inn Field and is lately dead (Hatton Correspondence, Camden Society, XXIII [1878], 240).

St James's

COMMENT. Thomas Brown to George Moulton, 12 Sept. 1699: But tho' Bartholomew-Fair is dead and buried for a twelvemonth, yet it is some consolation to us, that it revives in both the play-houses, Poetry is so little regarded there, and the audience is so taken up with show and sight, that an author will not much trouble himself about his thoughts and language, so he is but in fee with the dancing-masters, and has a few luscious songs to lard his dry composition. One would almost swear, that Smithfield had removed into Drury-lane and Lincolns-Inn-Fields, since they set so small a value on good sense, and so great a one on trifles that have no relation to the play. By the by, I am to tell you, that some of their late bills are so very monstrous, that neither we, nor our forefathers, ever knew anything like them: They are as long as the title-pages to some of Mr Prynne's works; nay, you may much sooner dispatch the *Gazette*, even when it is most crowded with advertisements. And as their bills are so prodigious, so are the entertainments they present us with: For, not to mention the Bohemian women, that first taught us how to dance and swim together; nor the famous Mr Clinch of Barnet, with his kit and organ; nor the worthy gentlemen that condescended to dance a Cheshire-roun, at the instance of several persons of quality; nor t'other gentleman that sung like a turkey-cock; nor, lastly, that prodigy of a man that mimick'd the harmony of the Essex lions; not to mention these and a hundred other notable curiosities, we have been so unmercifully over-run with an inundation of Monsieurs from Paris, that one would be almost tempted to wish that the war had still continued, if it were for no other reason but because it would have prevented the coming over of these light-heel'd gentlemen, who have been a greater plague to our theatres, than their privateers were to our merchantmen. Shortly, I suppose, we shall be entertain'd here with all sorts of sights and shows, as, jumping thro' a hoop; (for why should not that be as proper as Mr Sympson's vaulting upon the wooden-horses?) dancing upon the high ropes, leaping over eight men's heads,

Tuesday 12
DL, LIF