

- Late December*
DL Speech or two, that the other four Acts might limp on with a little less Absurdity! no! he had no leisure to consider what might be separately inoffensive. [Cibber continues with an explanation of the censor's argument for cutting the act.]
Preface to Cibber's *Ximena*, 1719: *Richard the Third*, which I alter'd from Shakespeare, did not raise me Five Pounds on the Third Day.

January 1700

- Wednesday 3*
DG ENTERTAINMENTS.
COMMENT. *London Post*, No. 30, 1-3 Jan. 1700: This day at the Theatre-Royal in Dorset-garden, the Famous Kentish-man Mr Joy, designs to show the same Tryals of Strength, he had the honour of showing before his Majesty, the Prince and Princess of Denmark, and several Persons of Quality, viz. The lifting a weight of 2240 *l*. Holding an extraordinary large Cart-Horse; and afterwards breaking a Rope that will bear 3500 weight. There will likewise be shewn the Sister, carrying 5 Bushels of Wheat, or any other grain; She being but 15 Years of Age. They will also show on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, beginning at 3 of the Clock, and ending at 4 in the Afternoon. Boxes 3*s*. Pit 2*s*. 1st Gallery 1*s*. Upper gallery 6*d*.
- Thursday 4*
DG ENTERTAINMENTS. See 3 Jan. 1700.
- Friday 5*
DG ENTERTAINMENTS. See 3 Jan. 1700.
- Saturday 6*
DG ENTERTAINMENTS. See 3 Jan. 1700.
- Tuesday 9*
LIF KING HENRY THE FOURTH: With the Humours of Sir John Falstaff. [Altered from William Shakespeare by Thomas Betterton.] Edition of 1700: King Henry IV - Berry; Prince of Wales - Scudamore; John Earl of Lancaster - Bayly; Northumberland - Boman; Henry Percy, surnamed Hotspur - Verbruggen; Westmorland - Pack; Worcester - Freeman; Owen Glendower - Hodgson; Douglas - Arnold; Sir Walter Blunt - Trout; Sir Richard Vernon - Harris; Sir John Falstaff - Betterton; Bardolph - Bright; Francis the Drawer - Bowen; Katherine Percy - Mrs Boman; Hostess - Mrs Leigh.
COMMENT. Betterton's Company. This performance was probably the first day of this revival, for Matthew Prior wrote to Abraham Stanyan, 8 Jan. 1699/1700: To-morrow night Betterton acts Falstaff, and to encourage that poor house the Kit Katters have taken one side-box and the Knights of the Toast have taken the other (HMC, Bath MSS. [London, 1908], III, 394). See also 28 Jan. 1699/1700. The play was advertised in the *London Gazette*, No. 3601, 13-16 May 1700, and the title page states: Reviv'd, with Alterations. Written Originally by Mr Shakespear.
- Thursday 11*
[DL or LIF] COMMENT. James Brydges, *Diary*: About 6: went to y^e play. I staid there a quarter of an hour (Huntington MS St 26).
- [*Saturday 20*]
[DL or LIF] COMMENT. Alice Hatton, writing on (possibly) 20 Jan. 1699/1700: I was last night (wth Lady Longuevil and Lady Arundel) at y^e Princess's, and Lady Long: was so kind to offer to carry me to y^e Opera to day wth her and Lady Portland; but I was so unfortunate as to be engaged to go to Lady Denbighs to see y^e famous Mrs Binges dance, or else I should have bin glad to have waited on Lady Long: tho I had seen it before and think it very silly. Mr Abel is to have a fine musicke meeting to morrow, and y^e tickets are guineas a piece, w^{ch} is a little to much for me to throw away; so I shall not be there, and I find so many y^t can afford it better