A Comparison Between the Two Stages (1702), p. 19: Sullen: Oronooko. Ramble: Oh! DL the Favourite of the Ladies. Sullen: It had indeed uncommon Success, and the Quality of both Sexes were very kind to the Play, and to the Poet: No doubt it has Merit, particularly the last Scene; but 'tis as certain, that the Comick Part is below that Author's usual Genius. Ramble: I have a particular regard for Mr Southern's Stile and agreeable Manner; there's a Spirit of Conversation in every thing he writes. Sullen: I think very few exceed him in the Dialogue; his Gallantry is natural, and after the real manner of the Town; his aquaintance with the best Company entered him into the secrets of their Intrigues, and no Man knew better the Way and Disposition of Mankind. But yet I must say, his Diction is commonly the best part of him, especially in Comedy; but in Tragedy he has once in this, and in one other, Drawn the Passions very well.

## CONCERT.

COMMENT. London Gazette, No. 3134, 18-21 Nov. 1695: Mr Finger's Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, will begin on Monday next, the 25th Instant, in York-Buildings, at the usual hour.

## December 1695

AGNES DE CASTRO. [By Catherine Trotter.] Edition of 1696: Prologue, I Written by Mr Wycherley, at the Author's Request, Design'd to be spoke. Prologue, Spoken by Mr Powell. Epilogue Spoke by Mrs Verbruggen in Men's Cloaths. King – Sympson; Prince – Powell; Alvaro – Verbruggen; Lorenzo – Cibber; Diego – Hill; Pedro – Mills; Princess – Mrs Temple; Agnes de Castro – Mrs Rogers; Elvira – Mrs Knight; Bianca – Mrs Kent.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. The date of the première is not known, but the fact that the play was advertised in the *London Gazette*, No. 3153, 27–30 Jan. 1695/6, suggests that it was first given in December 1695, certainly no later than early January 1696.

PHILASTER; or, Love Lies a Bleeding. [Adapted from Francis Beaumont and DL John Fletcher by Elkanah Settle.] Edition of 1695: The Prologue, Spoken by Mr Horden. King – Simpson; Philaster – Powel; Pharamond – Cibbars; Dion – Powel, Sr; Cleremont – Lee; Thraselin – Horden; Arethusa – Mrs Knight; Galatea – Mrs Cibbars; Megra – Mrs Kent; Bellario – Mrs Rogers.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. The date of the first performance of this revision is uncertain. Although the play was not entered in the *Term Catalogues* until June 1696, the edition is dated 1695. The production was certainly before May 1696, when Horden died, but the only fact which suggests a performance as early as December is the date on the title page. When the play was revived at Drury Lane on 13 Oct. 1711, the bill bore the heading: Not Acted these Fifteen Years.

THE LOVER'S LUCK. [By Thomas Dilke.] Edition of 1696: Prologue, Spoken LIF by Mr Hodgson. Sir Nicholas Purflew – Bright; Alderman Whim – Underhil; Bellair – Betterton; Breviat – Freeman; Goosandelo – Bowman; Eager – Bowen; Sapless – Dogget; Jacona – Mrs Ayloff; Mrs Purflew – Mrs Bracegirdle; Mrs Plyant – Mrs Bowman; Vesuvia – Mrs Lee; Sprightly – Mrs Lawson; Landlady – Mrs Perin.

COMMENT. Betterton's Company. The date of the première is not known, but the fact that the play was advertised in the *London Gazette*, No. 3151, 20–23 Jan. 1695/6, and entered in the *Term Catalogues*, February 1695/6, suggests that it was probably acted not later than December 1695.

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