

## April 1684

THE DISAPPOINTMENT; or, The Mother in Fashion. [By Thomas Southerne.] DL  
 Edition of 1684: Alphonso – Betterton; Lorenzo – Smith; Alberto – Wilshire; Lesbino – Carlisle; Rogero – Leigh; Erminia – Mrs Cook; Juliana – Mrs Percival; Angelline – Mrs Knight; Her Supposed Mother – Mrs Corey; Clara – Mrs Leigh. The Prologue, Written by Mr John Dryden, Spoken by Mr Betterton. The Epilogue by the Honourable John Stafford, Esquire.

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but Luttrell dated his copy of the separately-printed Prologue and Epilogue 5 April 1684 (J. W. Dodds, *Thomas Southerne*, p. 48). Very probably the play first appeared during the week of 31 March–5 April, immediately following Easter. The Prologue and Epilogue are reprinted in Wiley, *Rare Prologues and Epilogues*, pp. 191–94. This may have been the last new role William Smith undertook for some years; see Cibber, *Apology*, ed. Lowe, I, 78–79, for the incident which prompted Smith's leaving the stage for awhile. One song, "I never saw a face till now," with music by Captain Pack, is in *The Theater of Music*, The First Book, 1685; and another, "O why did e'er my thoughts aspire," the music by R. King, is in the same collection. A third song, "See how fair Corinna lies," the music by Captain Pack, is in *A Collection of Twenty-Four Songs*, 1685.

## May 1684

[THE DUKE OF GUISE. By John Dryden and Nathaniel Lee.] See 28 Nov. 1682. Saturday 24  
 COMMENT. The United Company. That the King saw a play on this evening [DL]  
 is indicated by the Newdigate newsletters, but the reference to the play is not by title. The play which most closely fits the brief description is *The Duke of Guise*. Newdigate newsletters, 24 May 1684: [In] the Evening his Ma<sup>tye</sup> is Entertained with Mr Drydens new play the subject of which is the last new Plott (Wilson, "More Theatre Notes from the Newdigate Newsletters," p. 59).

COMMENT. On this day an order calls for the delivery, customs free, of the Monday 26  
 properties of the French troupe of the Prince of Orange. See Rosenfeld, *Foreign At Court*  
*Theatrical Companies*, p. 4.

## June 1684

SIR HERCULES BUFFOON; or, The Poetical Squire. [By John Lacy.] Edition DG  
 of 1684: Prologue, Written by Tho. Durfey, Gent, Spoken by J. Haynes, Com. No actors' names. Epilogue, Wrote and Spoke by J. H. [Joseph Haines] Com.

COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not certain, but Luttrell dated his copy of the separately-printed Prologue and Epilogue 4 June 1684 (Bindley Collection, William Andrews Clark Jr Library). Ordinarily the broadside prologues and epilogues appear to have been available shortly after the