

- Saturday 28* BONDUCA. [By George Powell.] See September 1695.
 [DL or DG] COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance: Lady Morley and one in the Box att Bonduca. 8s. See Hotson, *Commonwealth and Restoration Stage*, p. 377. When this play was revived at Drury Lane on 12 Feb. 1705, the bill bore the heading: Not Acted these Six Years.

Monday 30

A FAST DAY FOR THE MARTYRDOM OF CHARLES I

February 1699

- Thursday 2* THE SPANISH WIVES. [By Mrs Mary Pix.] *Cast not known*, but see September
 DL 1696.
 COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance: Lady Morley and one in the Box at Spanish Wives. 8s. See Hotson, *Commonwealth and Restoration Stage*, p. 377.
- Friday 3* KING LEAR. [Altered from William Shakespeare by Nahum Tate.] *Cast not known*.
 DL COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance: Lady Morley and two in the Box att King Lear. 12s. See Hotson, *Commonwealth and Restoration Stage*, p. 377.
- Tuesday 7* THE ISLAND PRINCESS. See November 1698.
 DG COMMENT. Rich's Company. Lady Morley attended this performance: Lady Morley and one in the Box att the Island Princess. 10s. See Hotson, *Commonwealth and Restoration Stage*, p. 377.
- Mid-February* XERXES. [By Colley Cibber.] Edition of 1699: The Prologue, Spoken by Mr
 LIF Batterton. The Epilogue. Xerxes – Verbruggen; Mardonius – Hodgson; Attabanus – Betterton; Arantes – Scudamore; Memnon – Freeman; Cleontes – Thurmond; Poet – Boin [Bowen]; Tamira – Mrs Barry.
 COMMENT. Betterton's Company. The date of the première is not known. The Dedication is dated 20 April 1699, and the play was advertised in the *Post Boy*, 25–27 April 1699; hence, it is likely that the play was first given between mid-February and mid-March, certainly before Easter, which fell on 9 April 1699.
- Friday 17* CONCERT.
 YB COMMENT. *Post Man*, 16 Feb. 1698/9: A Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, after the Italian Manner, for the benefit of Mr Finger.
- Monday 20* COMMENT. James Brydges, *Diary*: I set Mr Bullock down at y^e Playhouse, & came
 [DL or LIF] home (Huntington MS St 26).
 John Dryden wrote to Mrs Steward on 23 Feb. [1699/1700, but possibly 1698/99, as the letter concerns theatrical affairs of the autumn and winter of 1698–99]: The Poem of The Confederates [see *The Island Princess*, November 1698] some think to be Mr Walsh: the copies are both lik'd. And there are really two factions of ladyes, for the two play-houses. If you do not understand the names of some persons mention'd I can help you to the knowledge of them. You know, Sir Tho: Skipwith is master of the play-house in Drury-Lane; and my Lord Scarsdale is the patron of Betterton's house, being in love with somebody there [presumably Anne Bracegirdle] (*The Letters of John Dryden*, p. 133).
- Tuesday 28* [Play not known.]
 DL COMMENT. *Flying Post*, 21–23 Feb. 1699: The famous Italian, Seignor Fideli, is to Sing next Tuesday at the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane; both in Italian and English; which he never yet performed.