

February 1693

- Friday 3**
BG
CONCERT.
COMMENT. *London Gazette*, No. 2841, 30 Jan.-2 Feb. 1692/3: The Consort of Musick in Charles-street, Covent-Garden, will begin tomorrow, being Friday, the 3d of February, at Eight of the Clock at Night, and to continue every Thursday Night after during this Season.
- Thursday 16**
DG
THE FAIRY QUEEN. [By Elkanah Settle.] *Cast not known*. For a recent cast, see 2 May 1692.
COMMENT. The United Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/151, p. 369: y^e Q a Box & a Box for y^e Maids Honr Fairy Queen. [See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 352. This play was reprinted in 1693: With Alterations, Additions, and several new Songs. See Purcell's *Works*, Purcell Society, XII (1903), i.]
- End of Feb.**
DL
THE MAID'S LAST PRAYER; or, Any rather than Fail. [By Thomas Southerne.] Edition of 1693: Prologue, Spoken by Mrs Barry. Granger – Powell; Gayman – Boman; Garnish – Alexander [Verbruggen]; Lord Malepert – Doggett; Sir Ruff Rancounter – Bright; Sir Symphony – Bowen; Capt. Drydrubb – Underhill; Jano – Betty Allinson; Lady Malepert – Mrs Barry; Lady Trickitt – Mrs Bracegirdle; Lady Susan Malepert – Mrs Montford; Maria – Mrs Rogers; Wishwell – Mrs Betterton; Siam – Mrs Leigh; Florence – Mrs Kent; Judy – Mrs Rachel Lee; Christian – Perin; Footman, Porter, &c. – Pinkyman.
COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but it had been acted by the time the January 1692/3 issue of the *Gentleman's Journal* appeared in March (on page 1 of that issue, the editor states that "We are now in March"): Mr Southerne's New Comedy, call'd, *The Maid's last Prayer, or Any rather than fail*, was acted the 3d time this evening, and is to be acted again to morrow. It discovers much knowledge of the Town in its Author; and its Wit and purity of Diction are particularly commended (p. 28).
The first song in the play, "Tho you make no return to my passion," composed by Henry Purcell, was sung, according to the printed play, by Mrs Hodgson; by Mrs Dyer, according to *Thesaurus Musicus*, First Book, 1693. The second song, composed by [Samuel (?)] Akeroyd, was sung by Mrs Ayliff (*Thesaurus Musicus*, The First Book, 1693). Another song, "No, no, no, no, resistance is but vain," written by Anthony Henley, composed by Henry Purcell, and sung by Mrs Ayliff and Mrs Hodgson, Act IV, is in Purcell's *Works*, Purcell Society, XX (1916), xiv-xv. A song, "Tell me no more I am deceiv'd," written by William Congreve, set by Henry Purcell, and sung by Mrs Ayliff, is in *Works*, XX (1916), xv-xvi.
According to the *London Gazette*, No. 2852, 9-13 March 1692/3, the play was published "this day" (13 March 1692/3).

March 1693

- DL
THE OLD BATCHELOR. [By William Congreve.] Edition of 1693: Prologue intended for the Old Batchelor, sent to the Author, by an unknown Hand. Prologue, Spoken by Mrs Bracegirdle. Epilogue, Spoken by Mrs Barry. Heartwell – Betterton; Bellmour – Powel; Vainlove – Williams; Sharper – Alexander [Verbruggen]; Sir Joseph – Bowen; Bluff – Hains; Fondlewife – Dogget; Servant – Underhill; Araminta – Mrs Bracegirdle; Belinda – Mrs Mountfort; Laetitia – Mrs Barry; Sylvia – Mrs Bowman; Lucy – Mrs Leigh.
COMMENT. The United Company. The date of the first performance is not known. The January issue of the *Gentleman's Journal*, which did not appear until