

THE RIVAL QUEENS; or, Alexander the Great. [By Nathaniel Lee.] *Cast not known.* For a previous cast, see 17 March 1676/7. Tuesday 15
At Court

COMMENT. The King's Company. Newdigate newsletters (Folger Shakespeare Library), 15 Nov. 1681: This being y^e Q.^s birthday y^e K.^s players acted Alexdr y^e great after w^{ch} was a ball & entertainment given to y^e Ct (Wilson, "Theatre Notes from the Newdigate Newsletters," p. 80).

Luttrell, 15 Nov. 1681: The 15th, being the birth day of her majestie, was kept with ringing of bells, bonfires, &c.; and at night there was a play acted at Whitehall before the king and queen, where the court appeared in great splendor (*A Brief Relation*, 1, 144).

The Earl of Arran to Ormond, 15 Nov. 1681: I am going to a play at Court (HMC, Ormonde MSS., New Series, VI, 230).

L. C. 5/144, p. 246, 22 Nov. 1681: Whereas Jeoffrey Ayleworth, Thomas ffarmer, Thomas ffinall & Richard Tomlinson foure of his Mat^{es} Musitians have neglected their dury in attending at y^e play acted before his Mat^e at Whitehall on Tuesday night last for which I have suspended them (L. C. to the Treasurer of the Chamber, in Boswell, *Restoration Court Stage*, p. 100).

THE LONDON CUCKOLDS. [By Edward Ravenscroft.] Edition of 1682: Prologue, Written by a Friend, Spoken by Mrs Barry. Wiseacre – Underhill; Doodle – Nokes; Townly – Williams; Ramble – Smith; Loveday – Wilshire; Dashwell – Leigh; Tom – Richards; Eugenia – Mrs Corer [Currer]; Arabella – Mrs Barry; Peggy – Mrs Petty; Aunt – Mrs Norris; Engine – Mrs Leigh; Jane – Mrs Osborne. Epilogue [spoken by several actors]. Tuesday 22
DG

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/145, p. 120. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 120. The date of the first performance is not known, but it may well have been about this time, as the Prologue refers to Michaelmas Term and the reopening of the playhouses ("Theatres are up"). The play was entered in the *Term Catalogues* in February 1681/2.

December 1681

THE ROUNDHEADS; or, The Good Old Cause. [By Mrs Aphra Behn.] Edition of 1682: Prologue, Spoken by the Ghost of Huson ascending from Hell drest as a Cobler. No actors' names. Epilogue. DG

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but a reference in the Prologue to the "Ignoramus" Jury (24 Nov. 1681) and the entering of the play in the *Term Catalogues* in February 1681/2 (and its advertisement in *Domestick Intelligence*, 2-6 Feb. 1681/2) suggest a premiere in December 1681.

THE INGRATITUDE OF A COMMON-WEALTH; or, The Fall of Caius Martius Coriolanus. [By Nahum Tate.] Edition of 1682: Prologue, Written by Sir George Raynsford. No actors' names. Epilogue Spoken by Valeria. DL

COMMENT. The King's Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but the fact that the play was entered in the *Term Catalogues* in February 1681/2 and advertised in *The Loyal Protestant*, 7 March 1681/2, suggests a premiere in December 1681. A certain performance on 14 Jan. 1681/2 may indicate, however, that the play did not have its first performance until that month. A song for this play, "Retired from mortal's sight," set by Henry Purcell, is in *Choice Ayres and Songs*, 1683.