

Monday 18
DL THE TYRANT OF SICILY. [By Nahum Tate.] *Cast not known*, but see *The Sicilian Usurper*, 11 Dec. 1680.

COMMENT. The King's Company. After the banning of *The Sicilian Usurper*, it was brought on again under a new title and survived two days before it also was banned. Tate's statement concerning its reception—see 11 Dec. 1680—may refer to these two performances rather than to the sequence in December.

Newdigate newsletters (Folger Shakespeare Library), 20 Jan. 1680/1: K. Rich^d y^e 2.^d a play, being forbid acting att y^e K^s house the Poet put the name Tyrant of Sicily upon it by wch means it was acted twice this weeke, but the Cheate being found out it was forbid acting againe (Wilson, "Theatre Notes from the Newdigate Newsletters," p. 80).

Tuesday 19
DL THE TYRANT OF SICILY. See 18 Jan. 1680/1.
COMMENT. The King's Company. According to the L. C. records (Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 330n) the King's Theater was closed from 19 to 29 Jan. 1680/1.

Saturday 29
DG COMMENT. Newdigate newsletters (Folger Shakespeare Library), 29 Jan. 1680/1: Upon some disgust given to his Matie by y^e D^s Players acting plays he likd not does intend its said to take away y^r pattent (Wilson, "Theatre Notes from the Newdigate Newsletters," p. 80).

Monday 31

A FAST DAY FOR THE MARTYRDOM OF CHARLES I

February 1681

DL COMMENT. The finances of the King's Company continued to deteriorate and to be a source of dissension and confusion. For some months, beginning with February 1681, the receipts were often under £10 nightly, and sometimes the company apparently ceased acting. For a full account, see Hotson, *Commonwealth and Restoration Stage*, pp. 266-67.

March 1681

DG THE HISTORY OF KING LEAR. [Altered from William Shakespeare by Nahum Tate.] Edition of 1681: Prologue. King Lear – Betterton; Gloster – Gillo; Kent – Wiltshire; Edgar – Smith; Bastard – Jo. Williams; Cornwall – Norris; Albany – Bowman; Gentleman Usher – Jevon; Gonerill – Mrs Shadwell; Regan – Lady Slingsby; Cordelia – Mrs Barry. Epilogue, Spoken by Mrs Barry.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of the first performance is not known. As the play was entered in the *Term Catalogues*, May 1681, it was probably first acted not later than March 1681. The title page states: Revis'd with Alterations.

Tuesday 1
DG THE SOLDIER'S FORTUNE. [By Thomas Otway.] See mid-June 1680.
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This play appears on the L. C. list, 5/145, p. 120—see also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 349—without an assigned year. For arguments against assigning it to 1 March 1679/80, see the discussion in mid-June 1680.