

CONCERT.

COMMENT. *Post Man*, 16-19 March 1700: For the benefit of Mrs Hudson and Mr Williams, to morrow being Wednesday the 20th instant, in the Great Room in York Buildings, will be performed an extraordinary entertainment of Vocal and Instrumental Musick. At the desire of several Ladies of Quality, with a new Prologue to be performed by Jo. Haines.

Wednesday 20
YB

Monday 25-Saturday 30
PASSION WEEK

April 1700

COMMENT. John Dryden to Mrs Steward, 11 April 1700: Within this Moneth there will be playd for my profit, an old play of Fletchers, calld the Pilgrim, corrected by my good friend Mr Vanbrook; to which I have added A New Masque, & am to write a New Prologue & Epilogue. Southern tragedy, calld the Revolt of Capoua, will be playd At Bettertons House within this fortnight. I am out with that Company, & therefore if I can help it, will not read it before tis Acted; though the Authour much desires I shou'd (*The Letters of John Dryden*, p. 136).

Thursday 11

THE FATE OF CAPUA. [By Thomas Southerne.] Edition of 1700: Prologue Written by Charles Boyle. Epilogue Written by Coll. Codrington and Spoken by Mrs Barry. Pacuvius Calavius – Hodgson; Virginius – Betterton; Marius Blossius – Berry; Vibius Virius – Bayly; Decius Magius – Boman; Perolla – Scudamore; Junius – Verbruggen; Favonia – Mrs Barry.

Mid-April
LIF

COMMENT. Betterton's Company. The date of the première is not known, but Dryden's letter (see 11 April 1700) places its expected presentation between 11 and 25 April. The fact that the play was advertised in the *London Gazette*, 29 April 1700, suggests a première early in April.

COMMENT. James Brydges, *Diary*: With Sr G: Coply to ye Play (Huntington MS St 26).

Thursday 18
[DL or LIF]

COMMENT. *Post Man*, 20-23 April 1700: On Saturday last two Gentlemen [according to the *Post Boy*, 23-25 April 1700, they were Captain Francis and Mr Squibb, of the Exchequer] quarrelled at the Play-house, and one of them was mortally wounded.

Saturday 20
[DL or LIF]

THE PILGRIM. [Altered from John Fletcher by John Vanbrugh, with The Secular Masque by John Dryden.] Edition of 1700: Prologue Written by Mr Dryden. Epilogue by Mr Dryden. [Colley Cibber spoke both Prologue and Epilogue.] Alphonso – Johnson; Pedro – Wilks; Roderigo – Powell; Governor – Simson; Scholar – Thomas; Parson – Haynes; Englishman – Cibber; Welshman – Norris; Taylor – Pinkethman; Alinda – Mrs Oldfield; Juletta – Mrs Moor.

Monday 29
DL

COMMENT. Rich's Company. The date of the first production is not certain, but tradition states that Dryden died on the third day (1 May 1700); if this report is correct, the first performance occurred on 29 April 1700. In *A Collection of New Songs . . . Compos'd by Mr Daniel Purcel, Perform'd in the Revis'd Comedy call'd the Pilgrim* (1700) is a song, "Chronos, Chronos, mend thy pace," with Janus sung by Freeman, Momus by Pate, Diana by Mrs Erwin. Gottfried Finger apparently composed the passage sung by Venus, "Calms appear when storms are past."