

January 1698

- LIF HEROICK LOVE. [By George Granville.] Edition of 1698: Prologue, by Henry St John Esq. Epilogue, By Bevill Higgons, Esq. Agamemnon – Betterton; Achilles – Verbruggen; Nestor – Bowman; Ulysses – Sandford; Patroclus – Scudemore; Chryses – Kynaston; Chalcas – Freeman; Talthybius – Baily; Chruseis – Mrs Barry; Briseis – Mrs Bracegirdle; Artemis – Mrs Prince.
 COMMENT. Betterton's Company. The date of the première is not known, but the fact that the play was advertised in the *London Gazette*, 17-21 Feb. 1697/8, suggests that it was first given not later than January 1697/8.
 Downes, *Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 44: *Heroick Love*, Wrote by Mr George Greenvil, Superlatively Writ; a very good Tragedy, well Acted, and mightily pleas'd the Court and City. *A Comparison Between the Two Stages* (1702), p. 20: The Language is very correct: But with submission to him [Granville], his Fable is not well chosen; there's too little Business in't for so long a Representation: But if Mr G. had taken the Story at a greater length, and contriv'd the Incidents to surprize, he had made it an admirable Tragedy.
- Wednesday 5 THE RELAPSE; or, Virtue in Danger. [By John Vanbrugh.] See 21 Nov. 1696.
 DL COMMENT. Rich's Company. This play was also reprinted in 1698. Lady Morley attended this performance. Hotson, *Commonwealth and Restoration Stage*, p. 377: Lady Morley and two in the Pitt at the Relapse 5s.
- Monday 10 CONCERT.
 YB COMMENT. *Post Man*, No 419, 6-8 Jan. 1697/8: In York Buildings, on Monday the 10th of this instant January, at the request of several Persons of Quality, will be a Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, never performed there before; beginning at the usual Hour, for the benefit of Mr King and Mr Banister.
- Saturday 15 THE PROPHETESS; or, The History of Dioclesian. [By Thomas Betterton.] See
 DG May 1693.
 COMMENT. Rich's Company. *Post Boy*, 13-15 Jan. 1697/8: 'Tis said that this day will be Acted, at the Theatre in Dorset Garden, the Opera called Prophetess or Dioclesian, at the request of a Nobleman; they will not tell us who, but we presume for the Entertainment of a very great Foreigner. Luttrell, *A Brief Relation*, III, 332: He [the Czar of Muscovy] is this night at the playhouse incognito to see the Prophetesse acted.
- Monday 17 CONCERT.
 YB COMMENT. *Post Man*, No 413, 13-15 Jan. 1697/8: The Consort of Musick, which was performed last Monday in York-Buildings, will be performed there again, with an Addition of new Musick on Monday next, being the 17th of this instant January: beginning at the usual hour, for the benefit of Mr King and Mr Banister.
- Tuesday 18 THE COUNTRY HOUSE. [By John Vanbrugh.] *Cast not known*.
 DL COMMENT. Rich's Company. There is no certainty as to whether this performance is the premiere. Because the play was not published until 1715, the cast for the first performance is not known. Lady Morley attended this performance. Hotson, *Commonwealth and Restoration Stage*, p. 377: Lady Morley and one in the Box att Country House 8s.

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A FAST DAY FOR THE MARTTRDOM OF CHARLES I