

April 1672

Monday 1–Saturday 6
PASSION WEEK

- LIF MARRIAGE A LA MODE. [By John Dryden.] Edition of 1673: Prologue, spoken by Hart. Polydamas – Wintershall; Leonidas – Kynaston; Argaleon – Lydall; Hermogenes – Cartwright; Eubulus – Watson; Rhodophil – Mohun; Palamede – Hart; Palmyra – Mrs Coxé; Amalthea – Mrs James; Doralice – Mrs Marshall; Melantha – Mrs Bowtell; Philotis – Mrs Reeve; Belisa – Mrs Slade; Artemis – Mrs Uphill. Epilogue, spoken by Mohun.

COMMENT. The King's Company. The date of the premiere is most uncertain. The play was apparently finished in July 1671—see C. E. Ward, *The Life of John Dryden* (Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 1961), p. 83—and the play may have been acted before April 1672. For the possibilities see Macdonald, *Bibliography of Dryden*, p. 110, and Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, pp. 404–5. The Prologue and Epilogue are in *Covent Garden Drollery*, 1672. The song, "Whilst Alexas lay prest," the music by Nicholas Staggins, was printed in *Westminster Drollery* (entered in the *Stationers' Register*, 3 June 1672) and in *Choice Songs and Ayres*, The First Book, 1673. Another song, "Why should a foolish Marriage Vow," set by Robert Smith, is also in *Choice Songs and Ayres*, 1673.

- Saturday 20 THE ADVENTURES OF FIVE HOURS. [By Sir Samuel Tuke.] *Cast not known.*
DG COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/141, p. 2. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 347.

May 1672

- Friday 17 THE HISTORY OF CHARLES THE EIGHTH OF FRANCE. See Late
DG November 1671.
COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list, 5/141, p. 2. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 347.

June 1672

- LIF PHILASTER; or, Love Lies a Bleeding. [By Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher.]
Cast not known. Prologue Spoken by Mrs Marshall. Epilogue spoken by Mrs Marshall.

COMMENT. The King's Company. This play is one of a series represented by Prologues and Epilogues in *Covent Garden Drollery*, 1672, all of which may have been acted by the actresses only. Langbaine (*English Dramatick Poets*, p. 213) states: This Play was One of those that were represented at the old Theatre in Lincolns-Inn-Fields, when the Women acted alone. The Prologue and Epilogue were spoken by Mrs Marshall, and printed in *Covent-garden Drollery*, pag. 18. About this Time there was a Prologue written on purpose for the Women by Mr Dryden, and is printed in his *Miscellany Poems* in octavo, p. 285.