June 1680

THE FEMALE PRELATE. See 31 May 1680.

Tuesday 1

COMMENT. The King's Company. The Newdigate newsletters, 3 June 1680: On Munday last the King's players began to Act... Pope Joan & on Tuesday the D: of Norolke was there to see it (Wilson, "Theatre Notes from the Newdigate Newsletters," p. 80).

THE FEMALE PRELATE. See 31 May 1680.

Wednesday 2 DL

COMMENT. The King's Company. The Newdigate newsletters, 3 June 1680: But on Wednesday the Duchesse of Portsmouth to disablige Mr Settle the Poet carryed all the Court with her to the Dukes house to see Macbeth (Wilson, "Theatre Notes from the Newdigate Newsletters," p. 80).

MACBETH. [Altered from William Shakespeare by Sir William Davenant.] Cast DG not known. For a previous cast, see 18 Feb. 1672/3.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. See DL, 2 June 1680.

THE SOULDIERS FORTUNE. [By Thomas Otway.] Edition of 1681: Beaugard – Betterton; Courtine – Smith; Sir Davy Dunce – Nokes; Sir Jolly Jumble – Leigh; Fourbin – Jevon; Bloody Bones – Richards; Vermin – A Boy; Lady Dunce – Mrs Barry; Sylvia – Mrs Price. Prologue, [Written] by the Lord Falkland. Epilogue.

Mid-June

Mrs Barry; Sylvia – Mrs Price. Prologue, [Written] by the Lord Falkland. Epilogue. COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of the first performance is not known; an entry in L. C. 5/145, p. 120, lists it for I March, but leaves the year in question. See also Nicoll, Restoration Drama, p. 349. Because the Prologue upbraids the audience for deserting Dorset Garden to see The Female Prelate at Drury Lane (beginning 31 May 1680) and because the Epilogue refers to railing at the Penny Post, a service inaugurated on I April 1680, a performance in mid-June 1680 seems the likely first production. If so, the L. C. entry for I March probably represents a revival for I March 1680/I. A song, "Bonny lass gin thou wert mine," with music by Thomas Farmer, is in Choice Ayres and Songs, The Third Book, 1681. For Leigh as Sir Jolly and Nokes as Sir Davy, see Cibber, Apology, ed. Lowe, I, 147-48.

Downes (Roscius Anglicanus, p. 36): These two Comedies [The Soulder's Fortune and D'Urfey's The Fond Husband] took extraordinary well, and being perfectly Acted; got the Company great Reputation and Profit.

THE REVENGE; or, A Match in Newgate. [Probably by Mrs Aphra Behn.] Edition of 1680: Wellman - Smith; Friendly - Williams; Mr Shatter - Bowman; Trickwell - Jevorn; Mr Dashit - Lee; Glisten - Bright; Jock - Mumford; Corina - Mrs Barry; Marinda - Mrs Butler; Diana - Mrs Price; Ample - Anybody; Mrs Dashit - Mrs A. Lee [Elinor Leigh]; Mrs Dunwell - Mrs Norice.

Late June DG

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of the first performance is not known. Luttrell, however, dated the copy he purchased 6 July 1680 (Van Lennep, "Two Restoration Comedies," pp. 57-58) and attributed it to Mrs Aphra Behn. If copies were available in early July, the play was most probably performed in June 1680. Langbaine (English Dramatick Poets, p. 547) had heard that Mrs Behn was the author, but A Comparison between the Two Stages (p. 11) attributed it to Thomas Betterton. For a discussion of the authorship, see also Ten English Farces, ed. Leo Hughes and A. H. Scouten (Austin, Texas, 1948), pp. 203-4.