

Monday 17 COMMENT. Henry Savile to the Earl of Rochester, 17 Dec. 1677: I had allmost
At Court forgott for another argument to bring you to towne that a French troop of
 comaedians bound for Nimeguen were by adverse winds cast into this hospitable
 port and doe act at Whitehall soe very well that it is a thousand pittyes they
 should not stay, especially a young wench of fifteen, who has more beauty and
 sweetnesse than ever was seen upon the stage since a friend of ours left it (HMC,
 Bath MSS., 1907, II, 161). W. J. Lawrence ("Early French Players in England,"
 pp. 148-49) identifies the French actress as Francoise Pitel, later Mlle Raisin.

Wednesday 26 THE RIVAL QUEENS; or, Alexander the Great. [By Nathaniel Lee.] *Cast not*
DL *known.* For a previous cast, see 17 March 1676/7.

COMMENT. The King's Company. This performance is known from a
 document in *The Theatrical Inquisitor and Monthly Mirror*, July 1816, p. 26, and in
 Fitzgerald, *A New History*, I, 145. This document lists the receipts and attendance:
 The King's box, £1 10s., possibly six persons; Mr Hayles' boxes, £2 16s., possibly
 14 persons; Mr Mohun's boxes, £3 16s., possibly 19 persons; Mr Yate's boxes,
 £1 15s. 6d., possibly 9 persons; James' boxes, £2 4s., possibly 11 persons. Mr Kent's
 pit, 112 persons; and Mr Britan's pit, 79 persons; a total of 191 persons paying
 £23 17s. 6d. Mr Bracy's gallery, 100 persons; Mr Johnson's gallery, 44 persons;
 a total of 144 persons, paying £10 16s. Upper Gallery, 119 persons, paying £5 19s.
 Mrs Kempton (upper gallery?), 5s. The house rent is listed as £5 14s. The
 attendance appears to total at least 513 persons. Compare these data with those
 for 12 Dec. 1677.

January 1678

DG THE HISTORY OF TIMON OF ATHENS, THE MAN-HATER. [By Thomas
 Shadwell.] Edition of 1678: Prologue to Timon. Timon of Athens – Betterton;
 Alcibiades – Smith; Apemantus – Harris; Nicias – Sandford; Phaeax – Underhill;
 Aelius – Leigh; Cleon – Norris; Isander – Percival; Isidore – Gillo; Demetrius –
 Medburne; Dephilus – Bowman; Old Man – Richards; Poet – Jevon; Evandra –
 Mrs Betterton; Melissa – Mrs Shadwell; Chloe – Mrs Gibbs; Thais – Mrs Seymour;
 Phinias – Mrs Le-Grand. Epilogue.

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. The date of the premiere is not known,
 but a licensing date of 18 Feb. 1677/8 suggests a premiere not later than January
 1677/8. It is possible, however, that this play followed *Sir Patient Fancy* (17 Jan.
 1677/8), as the licensing date of *Timon* follows that for *Sir Patient Fancy*. Part of
 the music for *Timon* was composed by Louis Grabu and was published, without
 the singers' names, in *Choice Ayres and Songs*, 1679.

Downes (*Roscius Anglicanus*, p. 37): *Timon of Athens*, alter'd by Mr Shadwell;
 'twas very well Acted, and the Musick in't well Perform'd; it wonderfully pleas'd
 the Court and City; being an Excellent Moral.

Thursday 17 SIR PATIENT FANCY. [By Mrs Aphra Behn.] Edition of 1678: Prologue,
DG Spoken by Mr Betterton. Sir Patient Fancy – Anthony Leigh; Leander Fancy –
 Crosby; Wittmore – Betterton; Lodwick Knowell – Smith; Sir Credulous Easy –
 Nokes; Curry – Richards; Lady Fancy – Mrs Corrar; Lady Knowell – Mrs Gwin
 [Quin]; Lucretia – Mrs Price; Isabella – Mrs Betterton; Maundy – Mrs Gibbs.
 Epilogue, spoken by Mrs Gwin [Quin].

COMMENT. The Duke's Company. This performance is on the L. C. list,
 5/145, p. 120. See also Nicoll, *Restoration Drama*, p. 349. There is no certainty that
 this is the first performance, but a licensing date of 28 Jan. 1677/8 and Mrs Behn's