

## May 1696

- MF KING WILLIAM'S HAPPY DELIVERANCE AND GLORIOUS TRIUMPH OVER HIS ENEMIES; or, The Consultation of the Pope, Devil, French King and the Grand Turk, with the Whole Form of the Siege of Namur, and the Humours of a Renegade French-Man and Brandy Jean, with the Conceits of a Scaramouch and Harlequin.

COMMENT. May Fair. At Miller's Loyal Association Booth at the upper end of the market near Hyde Park Corner. [See Rosenfeld, *The Theatre of the London Fairs*, p. 108.]

- Monday 18 DL COMMENT. Although the reports do not fully agree upon the date, apparently it was on this night that Hildebrand Horden, of Rich's Company, was killed in a duel. See *Protestant Mercury*, 18-20 May 1696, and Luttrell, *A Brief Relation*, IV, 81.

- Late May DL IBRAHIM, THE THIRTEENTH EMPEROUR OF THE TURKS. [By Mrs Mary Pix.] Edition of 1696: Prologue Spoken by Mrs Cross. Sultan Ibrahim – Verbruggen; Azema – Disney; Mufti – Simpson; Mustapha – Mills; Amurat – Powell Jr; Solyman – Harland; Achmet – Mrs Verbruggen; Morena – Mrs Rogers; Sheker Para – Mrs Knight; Zada – Mrs Mills; Mirva – Mrs Cole. Epilogue.

COMMENT. Rich's Company. The date of the first performance is not known, but the fact that the play was advertised in the *Post Boy*, 27-30 June 1696, suggests that it was first acted not later than early June 1696 and probably not later than late May 1696. A dialogue, "Fly, fly from my sight," between a Eunuch Boy and a Virgin, set by Daniel Purcell and sung by Bowen and Mrs Cross, is in *Deliciae Musicae*, The Second Book of the Second Volume, 1696. This was also printed separately, without a date, by Thomas Cross, with the statement that the dialogue was written by Thomas D'Urfey.

Gildon, *English Dramatick Poets*, ca. 1698, p. 111: For the Distress of Morena never fail'd to bring Tears into the Eyes of the Audience.

## June 1696

- LIF LOVE'S A JEST. [By Peter Motteux.] Edition of 1696: Prologue Spoken by Mr Bowen in a Riding-Dress. The Epilogue [Introduced by Underhil and Bowen]; Enter Mr Mynns, one of the Gypsies. Lord Lovewel – Hodgson; Sir Thomas Gaymood – Freeman; Sam Gaymood – Bowen; Railmore – Betterton; Airy – Bowman; Sir Topewel Clownish – Underhil; Squire Illbred – Trefusis; Humphrey Doddipole – Trout; Humdrum – Eldred; Major Buff – Harris; Plot – Bright; Frankly – Bailey; Lady Single – Mrs Barry; Kitty – Mrs Howard; Francilia – Mrs Bowtell; Christina – Mrs Bracegirdle; Doll Hoyden – Mrs Perrin.

COMMENT. Betterton's Company. The date of the première is not known, but the fact that the play was advertised in the *Post Man*, 7-9 July 1696, suggests that it was first presented not later than June 1696. The cast also has a large number of relatively new players, suggesting a performance in the early summer, when the young actors had more opportunities to act. Several songs, with the names of the singers, were published separately: "Hark you, madam, can't I move you," set by John Eccles, and sung by Bowman and Mrs Bracegirdle; "Shou'd I not lead a happy life," set by John Eccles and sung by Reading and M. Lee; "From Aberdeen to Edinburgh," set by Ackeroyd and sung by Mrs Hudson; all in *Deliciae Musicae*, The Second Book of the Second Volume, 1696.