

June 1733

Friday 1
CG SHE WOU'D AND SHE WOU'D NOT. Manuel – Hippisley; Philip – Ryan; Octavio – Walker; Trappanti – Chapman; Soto – Neale; Lewis – Aston; Rosara – Mrs Bullock; Flora – Mrs Stevens; Viletta – Mrs Egleton; Hypolita – Mrs Younger; but see 30 April.

DANCING. *Musette* by Le Sac and Miss Baston. *Tambourine* by Miss Rogers. *Scotch Dance* by Glover, Mrs Laguerre, Le Sac, Miss Baston, De la Garde, Mrs Ogden.

COMMENT. Benefit a Gentleman under Misfortunes. At the particular Desire of several Persons of Quality. 6:30 P.M. Being positively the last Time of the Company's performing this Season. [No receipts in *Rich's Register*.]

Saturday 2
King's DL GRISELDA. *Cast not listed.*

COMMENT. *St. James's Evening Post*, 2 June, quoted in *Grub St. Journal*, 7 June: Sir, As Mr Cibber has had various ill-natured reflections cast upon him, for selling his share of the patent for Drury-Lane house, and for not making it over to his son; it will be a piece of justice to inform the publick, that the reason which he gave for such a conduct was, that he chose to convert it into ready money, that he might make a proportionable division of what fortune he may happen to have among all his children.

Craftsman, 2 June: We have likewise received undoubted Intelligence from [DL], that a considerable Body of malcontent Players, under the Command of that puissant Captain, Mr The—lus C—r, have lately enter'd into a mutinous Association against their Masters, the Patentees, and still continue in a State of Hostility; which hath prevented any Plays being acted there this Week.

Monday 4
DL COMMENT. In a letter to the *Daily Post*, 4 June, the Patentees of Drury Lane – Mary Wilks, John Ellys, Hester Booth, and John Highmore – stated the case of the Patentees. The gist of their statement is: (1) They operate under a Patent commencing 1 Sept. 1732 which, by Deaths and Legal Assignments, is the property of the four, with Highmore possessing one half, at an expence of £6,000 and upwards. (2) Several of the Players have threatened to desert the service of the Patentees and have contracted with some of the Trustees (the Sharers) to secure possession of the Theatre. (3) Drury Lane is let upon lease from the Duke of Bedford, granted to Thomas Kynaston and Francis Stanhope, Trustees for the Sharers (commonly called Renters) of Drury Lane at the rent of £50 annually upon a Fine of 1,000 guineas paid for the renewal of the lease. (4) The Players, under the Patentees, have acted at Drury Lane for twenty-one years without any interruption from the Trustees upon the sole contract that the Patentees pay the Trustees £3 12s. each acting night, besides the Liberty of seeing Plays. (5) At the beginning of this Season the manager's office received a letter from a few of the Renters demanding an Advance of Rent. Highmore, being new, was concerned, and asked the managers to take care of the matter; and thereafter the signers (the Patentees) had heard of no further discontent among the Renters. (6) To defend themselves against stories of hardship or complaint by the actors, the Patentees point out that the following weekly salaries had been paid: Colley Cibber £12 12s.; Theophilus Cibber £5; Mills Sr, £1 daily for 200 days certain, and a benefit, clear of all charges; Mills Jr £3; Johnson £5; Miller £5; Harper £4; Griffin £4; Shepard £3; Hallam, for himself and his father, the latter of little or no service, £3; Mrs Heron £5; Mrs Butler £3. For these charges and others, the Patentees stand a daily expence of £49 when the theatre is open. (7) Further, the Patentees paid Cibber Jr his wife's whole salary without her being able to