

- Monday 23**
DL
Saygrace – Turbutt; Lady Touchwood – Mrs Cross; Cynthia – Mrs Ridout.
Also THE JOVIAL CREW. As 9 April.
DANCING. By Muilment, Mrs Auguste.
SINGING. *Britons Strike Home*.
COMMENT. Mainpiece Written by the late Mr Congreve. Benefit Mrs Mills. Tickets to be had of Mills at his house in Nassau St., Soho. To the Author of the *General Advertiser*: It is with great Pleasure I find by the Publick Papers that a tragedy founded on Voltaire's *Mabomet* is now in rehearsal at Drury Lane Theatre. The Original was by Authority forbid to be played in France on account of the free and noble Sentiments with regard to Bigotry and Enthusiasm, which shine through it; and which that Nation found as applicable to itself, as to the bloody propagators of Mahomet's Religion. Indeed the Fable on which it is built demanded such sentiments; the design of it being to shew the dreadful effects of Bigotry and Enthusiasm, even upon minds naturally well inclined when work'd up to such a pitch, as a beautiful concurrence of amazing, yet probable Circumstances hath there carried them to: So that it was equally impossible for the poet, by cutting and mangling his play, to lop it to their standard of Orthodox poetry, as it were for their Inquisitors, by torturing and burning a poor protestant, to convince him of their Christian love and charity. . . . They foresaw that the most obvious Reflection, that every sensible Spectator could not but make, would be, that he every day saw the same effects produced from two the most different causes, *Mabometanism* and *Christianity*; and the consequence must be, either that they were both alike Imposters, or that a crafty, mercenary, and cruel Clergy had dared to add a spirit to Christianity, which Christianity never knew. It is not doubted but these very Sentiments, which in France, prevented the Representation of this piece, will, in England speak loudly in its favor (provided our English poet is not unequal to his subject) especially since so audacious an attempt has been lately made by the Common Enemy of Europe to establish at once a Civil and Spiritual Tyranny over those injur'd Nations, by the old Mohametan and Roman Arguments of Fire and Sword. I am, &c.
- CG
THE PROVOK'D WIFE. As 13 Dec. 1743, but Rake – Gibson listed; Belinda – Mrs Vincent; *Bumper Squire Jones* to be sung by Beard as Col Bully. Also THE DEVIL TO PAY. As 3 Jan., but Nell – Mrs Vincent.
DANCING. *The Amorous Swain*, as 16 April. *Les Jardiniers Suedois*, as 16 April. *Grand Ballet* by Cooke, Mlle Domatillo.
COMMENT. Benefit Mrs Vincent and Mrs Bonneval (*Daily Advertiser*).
- HAY
THE RECRUITING OFFICER. Plume – Bransby; Sylvia – Mrs Daniel; Brazen – Tucker. Also THE LYING VALET. Lying Valet by Mr Tucker (who perform'd it at LIF); Kitty – Mrs Daniel. With a Prologue written and to be spoken by Mr Tucker.
COMMENT. Benefit Tucker. A Concert, etc. 4s., 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d. Tickets at Magpye Tavern, Aldgate; Crown in Whitechapel; Cary's Coffee House, Minories; Card-maker's Arms, Gray's Inn Passage, Red Lyon Square.
- Tuesday 24**
CG
THE CONSCIOUS LOVERS. As 30 March, but Sealand – Rosco. Also THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE. As 14 April.
DANCING. *Scotch Dance*, by Villeneuve and Mrs Delagarde. *Louvre* and *Minuet*, by Villeneuve and Mrs Delagarde.
SINGING. A Cantata by Beard.
COMMENT. Benefit Villeneuve, Bencraft, Delagarde.
- King's
ALCESTE. Rosmira – Siga Visconti; Alceste – Monticelli; Barsene – Siga Mancini; Olinto – Siga Frasi; Mitrane – Siga Caselli; Fenicio – Fratesanti [from libretto of 1744 in British Museum].

- COMMENT. A New Opera [Altered by Rolli from Metastasio's *Demetrio*; music by Lampugnani (Nicoll, *Early Eighteenth Century Drama*, p. 388); not listed as a new piece in the Larpent MS.] Tuesday 24 King's
- MAHOMET THE IMPOSTER. Zaphna – Garrick; Mahomet – Delane; Alcanor – Giffard; Mirvan – Bridges; Pharon – Winstone; Hercides – —; Ammon – —; Palmira – Mrs Giffard; Prologue – Havard; Epilogue – Garrick [from edition of 1744, but listed in the same order as list of actors in *General Advertiser*, except *General Advertiser* adds Turbutt after Winstone]. Wednesday 25 DL
- COMMENT. Never acted before . . . From the French of Voltaire [By James Miller].
- THE BEGGAR'S OPERA. As 28 Jan., but MacHeath – Cashell; Polly (by Desire) – Mrs Vincent; Lockit – Marten; Mat – Carr; Jenny – Miss Allen. Also THE LYING VALET. As 10 Oct. 1743, but Trippet – Goodall. CG
- COMMENT. Benefit Cashell. [Address]: At the Dial in little Wild St., near LIF. Mainpiece: At the Desire of several persons of Quality.
- THE BRITON. *Cast not listed*, original prologue and epilogue. JS
- SINGING AND DANCING.
- COMMENT. At the particular Desire of several True Britons. A Concert. Written by Mr Phillips. Not acted 20 Years [see 3 April 1722]. 6 P.M. There will be no posting Bills.
- MAHOMET. Actors only, but Green replaces Turbutt. See 25 April. Thursday 26 DL
- THE MERCHANT OF VENICE. As 7 April, but Shylock – Ridout; Solarino – Goodall; Tubal – Dunstall. Also THE ROYAL CHACE. As 6 April. CG
- MUSIC. Concerto on German Flute (by Desire) by Lawson.
- COMMENT. Benefit Ridout, Dupre, Goodall, and Mlle Fabres.
- OTHELLO. Othello – a Citizen for his Diversion; see 6 Feb. HAY
- SINGING. By a Gentleman who never appeared on any stage before.
- ENTERTAINMENT. A new Quack Doctor's speech, in character, by a noted Humorist.
- COMMENT. Benefit a Brave Soldier, who suffer'd extremely at the Battle of Dettingen [Thomas Brown]. A Concert, etc. 4s., 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d. Tickets at Pinchbeck's shop facing the Haymarket.
- MAHOMET. As 26 April. Also THE AMOROUS GODDESS. As 20 April. Friday 27 DL
- COMMENT. Author's Night. The Author labouring under a severe and dangerous illness, hopes his friends will excuse his personal Application, and send for tickets to Mr Watts, at the Printing Office in Wild Court; or to Hobson at the Stage door of the theatre.
- Shenstone to R. Jago, 20 May: There is a new play acted at Drury Lane *Mabomet* translated from the French of Voltaire; but I have no great opinion of the subject, or the original author as a poet; and my diffidence is rather improved by the testimony of those who have seen it.—*Letters of William Shenstone*, p. 89.
- 2 HENRY IV. As 11 Jan., but Pistol – James; Hostess – Mrs James. Also THE VIRGIN UNMASK'D. As 18 April. CG
- DANCING. *Ballet* by Cooke &c. *Scotch Dance*, as 24 Nov. 1743.
- COMMENT. Benefit James and Rosco.