Wednesday 8

THE SUSPICIOUS HUSBAND. As 4 Oct. 1754, but with an Occasional Epilogue spoken by Mrs Woffington. Also THE CHEATS OF SCAPIN. Scapin - Shuter, first time; Thrifty - Bennet; Gripe - Costollo; Leander - Gibson; Octavian - Anderson; Shift - Dunstall; Sly - R. Smith; Clara - Mrs Vincent; Lucia - Mrs Baker

COMMENT. Benefit for the Lying-In Hospital for Married Women, in Brownlow Street, Long Acre. [On 18 Jan. appeared in the *Public Advertiser* the *Occasional Epilogue*]:

After this bounteous, well-intentioned play Tou think I'm come to banter all away; To mock the soft compassion in the breast, And turn at once all charity to jest . . . Tir'd of such arts, I'm now so serious grown I mean to speak plain sentiments alone.

[Then addressing each part of the house, with appropriate comment—and a good deal of banter—she praises marriage as an institution, and this hospital as an aid.]

Methinks I spy some amorous pairs above [to upper gallery] Drawn here by tender flames of mutual love. Close pack'd they sit,—and woo with secret squeeze, With conscious elbows, sympathetic knees. Go on my friends,—true to connubial law, And leave to us the Woman in the straw.

HAY

A COURSE OF COMIC LECTURES. By George Alexander Stevens.

COMMENT. At the New Theatre in the Haymarket (where Mr Foote lately appeared), an Orator's head will be dissected secundum artem. The Orators will be shewn lying in state with Heiroglyphicks and Monumental Inscriptions. The Question will be whether they will be allow'd Christian burial? If 't'is granted, a funeral Oration will be pronounced by Martinus Scriblerus. Places for the Boxes to be taken at the theatre. "Thus orator to orator succeeds / Another and another after him / and the last."

Thursday 9 DI. MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. As 22 Nov. 1754. Also PROTEUS. Cast not listed.

COMMENT. By command of Princess of Wales and 6 more (Cross). Receipts: £200 (Cross).

CG

THE WAY OF THE WORLD. As 25 Nov. 1754, but Foible - Mrs Green. Also HARLEQUIN SORCERER. Cast not listed.

Friday 10

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR. As 13 Dec. 1754, but Sir Hugh - Yates. Also PROTEUS. Cast not listed.

COMMENT. Receipts: £170 (Cross).

CG

OEDIPUS, KING OF THEBES. Oedipus - Sheridan; Creon - Sparks; Phorbas - Ryan; Aegeon - Ridout; Tiresias - Gibson; Manto (with a song in character) - Mrs Chambers; Alcander - Cushing; Haemon - White; Ghost of Laius - Anderson; Pyraemon - Redman; Adrastus - Smith; Eurydice - Mrs Bellamy; Jocasta - Mrs Woffington. With all proper decorations. Also THE CHEATS OF SCAPIN. As 8 Jan., but only Scapin - Shuter listed.

COMMENT. Not acted in 12 Years. [See the Dryden-Lee text, and 15 Jan. 1740.]

THE CONSCIOUS LOVERS. As 5 Oct. 1754. Also PROTEUS. Cast not listed COMMENT. Receipts: £180 (Cross).

