## Tuesday 16

 DLAll in the Wrong. As is June.
dancing. Pantomime Dance by Master Rogie and Miss Capitani, from the Opera. COMmENT. Play to begin at 6:30 P.M.

All in the Wrong. As is June, but Mr Miller, 3rd appearance. DANCING. As I6 June.
comment. [This day Horace Walpole wrote as follows to George Montagu, forshadowing an event to take place on 27 July: "If you will stay with me a fortnight or three weeks, perhaps I may be able to carry you to a play of Mr Bentley'syou stare-but I am in earnest-nay, and de par le roy. In short, here is the history of it. You know the passion he always had for the Italian comedy. About two years ago he writ one, intending to get it offered to Rich-but without his namehe would have died to be supposed an author, and writing [ 1,372 ] for gain. I kept this a most inviolable secret. Judge then of my surprise when about a fortnight or three weeks ago I found my Lord Melcomb reading this very Bentleiad in a circle at my Lady Hervey's. Cumberland had carried it to him, with a recommendatory copy of verses, containing more incense to the King and my Lord Bute, than the Magi brought in their portmanteaus to Jerusalem. The idols were propitious, and to do them justice, there is a great deal of wit in the piece, which is called The Wishes or Harlequin's Mouth Opened. A bank note of $£, 200$ was sent from the Treasury to the author, and the play ordered to be performed by the summer company. Foote was summoned to Lord Melcomb's, where Parnassus was composed of the peer himself, who, like Apollo as I am going to tell you, was dozing, the two Chief Justices and Lord Bute. Bubo read the play himself, witb bandkerchief and orange by bis side. But the curious part is a prologue which I never saw. It represents the god of verse fast asleep by the side of Helicon. The race of modern bards try to wake him, but the more they repeat of their works, the louder he snores. At last Ruin seize thee rutbless King is heard, and the god starts from his trance. This is a good thought, but will offend the bards so much, that I think Dr Bentley's son will be abused at least as much as his father was. The prologue concludes with young Augustus, and how much he excels the ancient one, by the choice of his friend. Foote refused to act this prologue, and said it was too strong. "Indeed," said Augustus's friend, 'I think it is.' They have softened it a little, and I suppose it will be performed. You may depend upon the truth of all this; but what is much more credible, is that the comely young author appears every night in the Mall in a milkwhite coat with a blue cape, disclaims any benefit, and says he has done with the play now it is out of his own hands, and that Mrs Hannah Clio alias Bentley writ the best scenes in it. He is going to write a tragedy, and she, I suppose, is goingto court."-Horace Walpole's Correspondence with George Montagu. Ed. W. S. Lewis and Ralph S. Brown Jr (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1941), I, 372-73. [IX, 372-373.]

## Friday 19

DL

## Monday 22

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Tuesday 23 CG

All in the Wrong. As is June.
dancing. III: As 16 June; End of Play: Hornpipe by Miss Scott.
All in the Wrong. As is June.
Dancing. As 19 June.
comment. The Fifth Night.
Othello. Othello-a Gentleman who has not appeared in several years; Cassio Cooke, 2nd appearance this stage; Desdemona - Mrs Osborne; Iago - Storer; Brabantio - Wignell; Roderigo - Vaughan; Duke - Stoppelaer; Montano - Turner; Emilia - Mrs Smith. Also The Upholsterer. Quidnunc - Storer; Feeble Hartry ; Razor and Pamphlet - Cooke; Bellmour - T. Smith; Rovewell - Wignell; Brisk - Gibson; Harriet - a Young Gentlewoman (who never appeared on any stage); Termagant (by desire) - a Gentleman.

