

Thursday 5
DL THE GRECIAN DAUGHTER. As 29 Feb., but [*Prologue* – Weston; *Epilogue* – Miss Younge (Winston MS 10).] Also THE MAYOR OF GARRATT. As 8 Oct. 1771.

COMMENT. Paid Printer's Bill £9 6s.; Mr Wrihten on Note £10 10s. (Treasurer's Book). Receipts: £274 4s. 6d. (Treasurer's Book).

CG A WIFE IN THE RIGHT. Parts by Smith, Shuter, Bensley, Quick, Kniveton, Morris, Wignell, Mrs Mattocks, Mrs Bulkley, Mrs Green, Mrs Gardner, Miss Miller. *Prologue* and *Epilogue*. [Lord Seaton – Smith; Col. Ramsay – Bensley; Governor Anderson – Shuter; Bull – Quick, Squeezem – Kniveton; Varnish – Morris; Nicholas – Wignell; Lady Seaton – Miss Miller; Mrs Frankly – Mrs Mattocks; Miss Melville – Mrs Bulkley; Mrs Markam – Mrs Green; Lucy – Mrs Gardner. *Prologue* – Mrs Bulkley; *Epilogue* – Mrs Mattocks (Edition of 1772).] Also THE INTRIGUING CHAMBERMAID. As 11 Oct. 1771.

COMMENT. [This New Comedy (by Mrs Elizabeth Griffith) seems not to have been performed this night, according to the author's Preface to her Edition of 1772. Shuter had been unattentive and absent from many rehearsals]: At length though late [in the season] a day was appointed for the representation, and on that morning Mr Shuter appeared at rehearsal, pretty much in the same state as before, and confessed himself incapable of performing his part, that night. Upon which the play was oblig'd to be further postponed, and handbills were sent about at noon, to advertise the town of the disappointment. . . . A further final day was afterwards determined on, but the audience being out of humour at their former disappointment, called Mr Shuter to account for it, on his first appearance; which threw him into such confusion, that he was not able to get the better of it, throughout the whole performance . . . in the hurry of his spirits the actor not only forgot his part, the deficiency of which he endeavoured to supply with his own dialect, but also seemed to lose all idea of the character he was to perform; and made the Governor appear in a light which the author never intended: that of a mean, ridiculous buffoon. [Mrs Griffith concluded her Preface by relating how her friends stood by the piece, but two or three in the gallery, when it was given out again objected and threw an apple at the chandeliers, which so perturbed the management that the play was withdrawn. She therefore published it by subscription, prefixing the names of about 440 subscribers, persons of the first quality, including James Boswell, Edmund Burke, Col. Burgoyne, the Duke of Devonshire, David Garrick, Mrs Montague, William Richardson, and a host of writers, players, and people of fashion. This list provides a pretty good roster of those who filled the boxes and part of the pit of both theatres at the time.] Paid Younger £2 2s. for the license for *A Wife in the Right* (Account Book). Receipts: £218 12s. (Account Book).

Friday 6
DL ALEXANDER'S FEAST, WITH CORONATION ANTHEMS. *Cast not listed.* MUSIC. *First Violin* by Mr Ximene; with a Solo on the *Violincello* by Mr Janson, lately arrived from Paris, (Who has never performed in Public in England).

COMMENT. By Command of Their Majesties. Tickets and places to be taken of Mr Johnston at the Stage Door of the Theatre at Half a Guinea. Pit 5s. First Gallery 3s. 6d. Second Gallery 2s. Doors to be opened at Five o'clock. To begin at Half past Six.

Theatrical Review (London, 1772), appendix, pp. 207-8: The Oratorios performed at this House were conducted by Messrs. Stanley and Smith, for their own emolument; the Managers of the theatre having had no share of the profit arising from these performances, nor any advantage, except a premium for the use of the house. Mr Stanley's musical abilities are well known. Mr Smith, was, if we are not mistaken, a pupil of the celebrated Mr Handel's; and, we believe, that Gentleman left Mr Smith the greatest part of his music, if not his whole library; so that Mr Smith may with great propriety claim the right of succeeding Mr Handel in the

exhibition and conduct of his Oratorios, which he has undertaken (in conjunction with Mr Stanley) every since Mr Handel's death. Friday 6
DL

Their band was composed of some of the most capital performers in this kingdom, and was led by Mr Ximenes. The vocal performers (exclusive of Chorus singers) were Mr Norris, well known to all lovers of Music, for his taste and delicacy of execution. Mr Parry (a Bass voice) from the Cathedral Church of Salisbury. This gentleman, though very young, has an extensive compass, and a great power of voice, and acquits himself with considerable reputation. Mrs Weichsel and Mrs Scott, of whom it would be superfluous and unnecessary to say anything, since their abilities are generally known. And lastly Signora Grassi, a performer of great merit.

Theatrical Review, 6 March: This is Mr Dryden's celebrated *Ode on St Cecilia's Day*, and not an Oratorio, but performed as such . . . It contains many beauties and such as are worthy of Mr Handel's genius . . . Being much shorter than the usual length of oratorios, Mr Handel's celebrated *Coronation Anthems* were added in order to make the evening's entertainment of a proper length. Also a Solo on the *Violincello* by Mr Janson . . . lately arrived from Paris, said to have been a pupil of Mr Duport's, but, though his taste and execution is very astonishing, we cannot give him the preference of his master. [See 13 April 1773. Charge seems to have been £28 per night plus expenses for oil, candles &c.]

THE MESSIAH. *Cast not listed.*

MUSIC. Part I: A *Concerto on the French Horn*, by Mr Ponta; End Part II: A *Concerto on the Violin* by Sga Lombardini Sirmen (*Theatrical Review*, 214). CG

COMMENT. Words from Holy Writ . . . Music so admirably designed by Handel as to Beggan all description (*Theatrical Review*). Mr Ponta is Musician to his Serene Highness the Elector of Mentz. Tickets and places for the boxes to be taken of Mr Sarjeant at the Stage Door. Box 5s. Pit 4s. First Gallery 3s. Upper Gallery 2s. Books of the performance sold at the Theatre. Doors to be opened at Five o'clock. To begin at half past Six (Account Book). [Messrs Toms and Arnold were putting on the Oratorios at Covent Garden this season.] Charges: £35 (Account Book).

THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE. As 9 Jan., but Fanny – Miss Rogers, 1st time; Chambermaid – Mrs Davies; Mrs Heidleberg – Mrs Hopkins. Also THE INSTITUTION OF THE GARTER. *Cast not listed*, but see 10 Dec. 1771. Saturday 7
DL

COMMENT. N.B. The sixth night of the New Tragedy of *The Grecian Daughter* is oblig'd to be deferred till Monday. Paid 2 Clarinets 3 nights (22 Feb. incl.) £4 14s. 6d.; Paid 4 Days' salary at £83 9s. 9d., £333 19s.; Mrs Abington's cloaths acct, £1; Mr S. French 6 days, £1 10s.; Extra soldiers, £1 4s.; Rec'd Mr Condill's 2nd payment for fruit office £20 (Treasurer's Book). Receipts: £156 16s. 6d. (Treasurer's Book).

JANE SHORE. As 4 Feb., but Ratcliff – R. Smith; Catesby – Perry; Derby – Thompson (playbill). Also MOTHER SHIPTON. As 27 Feb. CG

COMMENT. Mainpiece: By Desire. Paid Whitefield for cloaths bought £47 12s.; Paid Mayer for silver and gold lace as per bill £24 1s. 6d. (Account Book). Receipts: £189 14s. 6d. (Account Book).

IL VIAGGIATORI. *Cast not listed.*

DANCING. Mlle Heinel will dance.

COMMENT. By Command of their Majesties. King's

THE GRECIAN DAUGHTER. As 5 March. Also THE DEVIL TO PAY. As 4 Feb. Monday 9
DL

COMMENT. Author's Night for the Mainpiece. Paid ½ year's water Rent to Christmas last, £1 (Treasurer's Book). Receipts: £264 8s. 6d.; Charges: £73 10s. Profit to Murphy: £190 18s. 6d. (Treasurer's Book).