King's

Wednesday 1

MATILDA. As 21 Jan. Also HARLEQUIN'S JACKET. As 12 Jan.

COMMENT. Rec'd Stopages £15; Paid salary list £567 11s.; J. French on acct

L5 5s. Receipts: £205 (Treasurer's Book).

THE RIVALS. (With Alterations). As 17 Jan., but Sir Lucius – Clinch instead of CC Lee. Also THOMAS AND SALLY. As 19 Sept. 1774.

DANCING. End of Epilogue: The Frolick, as 14 Dec. 1774.

COMMENT. [Advertised as performed but once, but see 18 Jan. Sheridan in Preface to Edition of 1775 (2nd) refers to "withdrawing the piece to remove those imperfections in the first representation which were too obvious to escape reprehension, and too numerous to admit of hasty correction." He blames his inexperience and want of judgment in theatrical effects, the extreme length of the play act by act, and haste in writing. From the Westminster Magazine Feb., which outlined the plot in five columns: "The present state of the Rivals is widely different from that in which we found it on the first night's representation. Sir Lucius O'Trigger being re-touched, has now the appearance of a character; and his assigning Beverley's reflection on his country as the grounds for his desire to quarrel with him, is a reasonable pretence, and wipes off the former stigma undeservedly thrown on the sister kingdom. An alteration of a principal incident gave a very favorable turn to the fable and the whole piece: that where young Acres now delivers his challenge to his friend Absolute, begging him to carry it to his Rival Beverly, not knowing the two characters composed but one man; its being at first given to Sir Lucius, the person who indited it, was highly inconsistent . . . we should be induced from many evident traits of literary genius to pronounce the Rivals a good comedy."]

ARMIDA. As 8 Nov. 1774.

DANCING. As 17 Dec. 1774.

COMMENT. Being the last time. Alterations keyed to the Word Book.

MATILDA. As 21 Jan. Also HARLEQUIN'S JACKET. As 12 Jan. Tuesday 31 COMMENT. Matilda publish'd. Receipts: £166 10s. 6d. (Treasurer's Book).

THE RIVALS. As 28 Jan. Also THE TWO MISERS. As 21 Jan. CG DANCING. End of Epilogue: The Frolick, as 14 Dec. 1774.

COMMENT. Mainpiece: The Third Night. For the Author.

LA BUONA FIGLIUOLA. As 13 Dec. 1774. King's DANCING. As 17 Dec. 1774, but Allemande omitted from Le Bal Masquer. COMMENT. By Command of their Majesties.

February 1775

ISABELLA. As 25 Nov. 1774, but Sampson – Wrighten; Mrs Scott omitted from Epithalamium. Also THE RIVAL CANDIDATES. Parts by Vernon, Dodd, Bannister, Weston, Parsons, Fawcett, Kear, Mrs Wrighten, Mrs Baddeley. [Byron – Vernon; Sir Harry Muff – Dodd; Worry – Parsons; First Gardener – Bannister; Gardeners: Kear, Fawcett; Spy – Weston; Jenny – Mrs Wrighten; Narcissa – Mrs Baddeley (Edition of 1775).]

COMMENT. This Comic Opera is Written by the Rev^d Mr Bate. It is very pleasant & the Music pretty. It is admirably Perform'd & was receiv'd with very great Applause (Hopkins Diary). The Music of the Afterpiece by Mr Carter. New

