

- Wednesday 20**
DL
- COMMENT. Lyric Ode (never performed) "On the Witches, Fairies, and Aerial Beings in SHAKESPEARE. The Music entirely New." [The *Westminster Magazine* for March commented: "This poem is said to be written by a young gentleman of Oxford, and has many strokes of genius and imagination in it. The music, we hear, is composed by Mr Linley Jr, who has (since his return from Italy) been a student under that most excellent musician Dr Boyce. This composition must be allowed to be an extraordinary effort of genius in so young a man. The Fugue of the overture is masterly. The song of 'There in old Arden's inmost shade,' is well suited to the scene described by the poet. . . . But what we think most deserving of praise is the power our young composer has shown in the chorusses. . . . From the general and sincere applause with which the Ode was received, we may venture to pronounce, that if Mr Linley Jr pursues his studies, he will one day stand foremost in the list of modern composers."]
- CG
- THE ASCENSION. *Cast not listed.* Singers as 23 Feb. Parts: Chorus; Recitative; Air; &c.
MUSIC. Between the parts of the Oratorio: *A Concerto on the Pedal Harp*, by Jones, and one on the *Violin* by Lamotte, as 15 March.
COMMENT. A Sacred Oratorio, never performed. The Music entirely new, composed by Hook. [The reviewer for the *Westminster Magazine* for March thought the *Ascension* would "make but a poor figure at the Day of Judgement. [Hook] has, like many other votaries of Clio and Calliope, mistaken dullness for dignity . . . if there were no other objection to the *Ascension* than its extreme length and tediousness, that circumstance alone would prevent it from ranking among the pleasing Oratorios now in performance."]
- Thursday 21**
DL
- THE WAY TO KEEP HIM. Lovemore – Smith; Sir Bashful Constant – Yates; Sir Brilliant Fashion – Dodd; William – Baddeley; Sideboard – Burton; Migionette – Mrs Bradshaw; Mrs Lovemore – Mrs Yates; Muslin – Mrs Hopkins; Lady Constant – Mrs Greville; Widow Bellmour (with a *song*) – Mrs Abington. Also THE RIVAL CANDIDATES. As 20 Feb.
DANCING. End of Play: *The Grand Garland Dance*, as 11 March.
COMMENT. Benefit for Yates. Receipts: £148 11s. Charges: £67 3s. Profits to Mrs Yates: £81 8s. (Treasurer's Book).
- CG
- THE DUENNA. As 16 Dec. 1775. Also THE CITIZEN. As 5 Dec. 1775, but Old Philpot – Quick; *Epilogue* by Woodward and Quick.
DANCING. End of Opera: *La Soiree A-la-mode*, as 7 Dec. 1775.
- Friday 22**
DL
- SAMSON. *Cast not listed.* Parts were Samson, Manoa, Micah, Israelite Officer, Dalila, Harapha, Chorus of Philistine Women and Priests of Dagon, Chorus of Israelites—Larpent *MS*. Singers as 1 March, but add Mr Dine.
MUSIC. I: *Concerto on Organ* by Stanley.
COMMENT. By Command of their Majesties. Rec'd Stoppages £1 1s. (Treasurer's Book).
- CG
- THE MESSIAH. *Cast not listed.* See 1 March.
MUSIC. Between the Parts: *A Concerto on German Flute* by Florio; *Concerto on Violin* by Lamotte.
COMMENT. Last time of performing *Messiah* this season.
- Saturday 23**
DL
- THE ORPHAN; or, The Unhappy Marriage. Castalio – Reddish; Chamont – Smith; Polydore – Brereton; Chaplain – Usher; Page – Mas. Pulley; Servt – Everard; Acasto – Packer; Monimia – A Lady [Mrs Canning] first appearance this season;

Ernesto – Wrihten; Serina – Miss Platt; Florella – Mrs Johnston. Before the play *A New Occasional Address to the Public* spoken by Reddish. Also VALENTINE'S DAY. Parts by a Young Gentleman, Baddeley, Waldron, Burton, Miss Sharp, and Mrs Wrihten. [Frederick – A Young Gentleman [Burkitt]; Sir Veritas Vision – Waldron; Sir Anthony Ash – Baddeley; Jeremy Jingle – Burton; Florella – Miss Sharpe; Pinner – Mrs Wrihten (Genest, v, 493).]
DANCING. II: The Grand Garland Dance, as 11 March.

Saturday 23
DL

COMMENT. Benefit for Reddish. Mainpiece: Not acted in 4 years. [Sec 22 Dec. 1772.] Monimia by Mrs Canning very So, so. The Farce much hiss'd it was badly performed (Hopkins Diary). Rec'd Mrs Groath's one years rent to Xmas last £3. Paid Salary list £416 4s. 4d.; Johnston's Music Bills £24 2s. (Treasurer's Book). [The *Westminster Magazine* concluded with respect to the afterpiece: "This little drama met with rather an unfavourable reception. It would be breaking a butterfly on the wheel, were we to enter into strict examination of it; and as it was a mere benefit-night performance, it would be going out of our way to dwell much on its defects; suffice it therefore that although we so far join with the audience in condemnation of it, that we allow it wanted terseness of dialogue, brilliancy of wit, and strength of fable, yet we protest we have seen worse singing pieces received with applause. Jerry Jingle had same humor, and the music had great prettiness about it."] Receipts: £140. Charges: £67 14s. Profits to Reddish: £72 6s. (Treasurer's Book).

KING LEAR. As 22 Feb., but Lear – Lee; Edgar – Lewis; Burgandy – Booth; Arante – Mrs Masters; Cordelia – a Young Gentlewoman, first appearance on any stage. Also CATHERINE AND PETRUCHIO. As 17 Feb.
DANCING. End of Play: The Italian Gamesters, as 5 March.

CG

COMMENT. Benefit for Lee. Mainpiece: With the characters for the first time in old English Dresses, By Desire.

LA VESTALE. As 6 Feb.

King's

DANCING. I: Les Deux Soeurs, as 3 Feb.; II: *La Fete du Village*, as 12 March; End of Opera: *Astolphe*, as 12 March.

THE BEGGAR'S OPERA. Macheath – Vernon; Mat-O-Mint – Kear; Ben Budge – Burton; Player – Whitfield; Beggar – Waldron; Filch – Parsons; Peachum – Moody; Lockit – Bransby; Lucy – Mrs Wrihten; Polly – Mrs Smith; Diana Trapes – Mrs Bradshaw; Mrs Peachum – Mrs Love; In Act III, a *Hornpipe* by Mrs Sutton; To conclude with a *Country Dance*. Also THE LYING VALET. Sharp – Vernon; Trippit – Lamash; Mrs Gadabout – Miss Platt; Gayless – Davies; Kitty Pry – Mrs Davies; Melissa – Miss Hopkins; Justice – Griffiths; Cook – Wright.
DANCING. End of Opera: The Grand Garland Dance, as 11 March.

Monday 25
DL

COMMENT. Benefit for Vernon. Rec'd Mrs Johnston's rent 1 year to Lady Day £6. Paid Powney (stationer) £7 2s. 6d.; Ray (linen draper) £25 6s. 6d.; Vaughan (haberdasher) £4 10s. 6d.; Norfolk (glazier) £2 3s.; Barrow and Co. Oil £54 15s. 6d.; Pryer (turner) £5 18s. 6d.; Carter (scowerer) £9 8s. 6d.; Evans for Spermacetti Candles £5; Watch Rate half year £18 15s.; Cubit (tinman) £2 6d. Receipts: £160 10s. Charges: £66 16s. Profits to Vernon: £93 14s. (Treasurer's Book).

ARTAXERXES. As 17 Feb., but Artaxerxes – Mrs Mattocks, first time. Also PROMETHEUS. See 4 March, but to avoid confusion the bill is: Harlequin – Lee Lewes; others by Mahon, Baker, Daigueville, Miss Valois and Sga Vidini. *Vocals* by Reinhold, DuBellamy, &c. *Dance* by Zuchelli, &c.

CG

COMMENT. Benefit for Mrs Mattocks. N.B. HALF PRICE will be taken to the latter account [i.e., for those who came to see the pantomime only].