

COMMENT. Benefit for Master Russell. Tickets to be had of Master Russell at the Swan, Elephant stairs. Afterpiece: Written by Henry Fielding, Esq. In Act I the Triumphal Entry of Tom Thumb, attended with Giants, Giantess's, Dwarfs, Pigmies, Drums, Trumpets, &c. Wednesday 9
CHR

NEW BROOMS! As 21 Sept. Also BRAGANZA. Duke of Braganza – Reddish; Almada – Aickin; Ribiro – Palmer; Mendoza – Brereton; Lemos – Farren; Corea – Hurst; Roderic – Wright; Mello – R. Palmer; Pizarro – Davies; Ramirez – Packer; Antonio – Wrihten; Ferdinand – Griffiths; Velasquez – Smith // Ines – Mrs Johnston; Dutchess of Braganza – Mrs Yates. Also THE RIVAL CANDIDATES. Byron – Davies; Sir Harry Muff – Dodd; General Worry – Parsons; Spy – Baddeley; 1st Gardener – Bannister; Gardeners – Fawcett, Kear // Jenny – Mrs Wrihten; Narcissa – Mrs Baddeley. Thursday 10
DL

COMMENT. Paid Lampmen £3 18s.; Tailors £11 2s. 10d.; Mantua Makers £3 14s. 6d.; Carpenters £16 15s. 6d.; Printer [of playbills] £19 5s. 6d.

The Hypocrite and Christmas Tale in three Acts was advertised for to-morrow. This Morning at Rehearsal Lacy came and told Sheridan that he could not be off from his Agreement with Mr Langford and Captain Thomson. Sheridan told him, if he did agree, that he would withdraw himself from the Management of the Theatre—accordingly at eight this Evening he sent me with a Letter to Lacy confirming what he told him, and ordered me to receive my orders from Mr L—and that he withdrew the Christmas Tale, as he had altered, for a Farce, it was his Property. This put us all into confusion—Sent to Mrs Abington to know if she would play in the Hypocrite, as it was advertised—Her answer was, that she had made her Agreement with Sheridan only, and would play under no other Manager. About twelve at night we got Richard the third settled, and sent Bills accordingly (Hopkins Diary). [For further remarks concerning this situation see 15 Oct.] Receipts: £173 6s.

LOVE IN A VILLAGE. As 9 Oct. Also CATHERINE AND PETRUCHIO. Petruchio – Woodward; Baptista – Thompson; Hortensio – Davis; Taylor – Jones; Music Master – Fox; Biondello – Cushing; Pedro – Wewitzer; Grumio – Quick // Bianca – Mrs Poussin; Curtis – Mrs White; Catherine – Mrs Green. Friday 11
CG

DANCING. As 9 Oct.

COMMENT. Receipts: £212 12s. (211/18/6; 0/13/6).

THE LONDON MERCHANT; or, The History of George Barnwell. George Barnwell – Russell; Thoroughgood – Lewis; Trueman – Johnson; Blunt – Smith; Constable – Dancer; Uncle – Comerford // Millwood – Mrs Russell; Lucy – Miss Taylor; Maria – Mrs Wilks. Also THE LIFE AND DEATH OF TOM THUMB THE GREAT. As 9 Oct., but Lord Grizzle – Saul; omitted: Cleora. CHR

KING RICHARD III. King Richard – Smith; Richmond – Palmer; Buckingham – Jefferson; Tressel – Davies; Lord Stanley – Bransby; Norfolk – Hurst; Catesby – Packer; Prince Edward – Miss P. Hopkins; Duke of York – Master Pulley; Lord Mayor – Griffiths; Ratcliffe – Wright; Lieutenant – Fawcett; King Henry – Reddish // Lady Anne – Mrs Greville; Dutchess of York – Mrs Johnston; Queen – Mrs Hopkins. Also THE ELOPEMENT. As 1 Oct. Saturday 12
DL

COMMENT. The Provoked Husband and Rival Candidates was given out for Tuesday. On Sunday Morning Mrs Yates sent word she was ill and could not play—sent to Miss Younge, and she sent word that she was ill in bed—King sent word he had a sore Throat, and could not play—so that we could do no Play but the Committee and Rival Candidates. On Monday the Managers met, but nothing was settled. At twelve o'clock Mrs Baddeley sent word she had a sore Throat, and could not play in the Riv[al] Can[didates] (Hopkins Diary).

THE HYPOCRITE and THE CHRISTMAS TALE are obliged to be deferred.

Saturday 12
DL “[Smith] has a good figure, is gentlemanlike, and decent in everything he undertakes. When we allow that, we have said all; he wants both feeling to be affected, and powers to convey his feelings, if he had them. In fine, in spite of all the partiality of his friends, or the ignorant prejudices of those who never judge but at second hand, his performance of Richard was little more than a strong union of judgement and industry, *unaided* by nature. He should woo genteel Comedy oftener; and not that coy sister of hers, who certainly holds Smith at the point of her lance” (*London Magazine*, Oct. 1776, p. 511). Receipts: £186 18s. 6d.

Monday 14
CG ROMEO AND JULIET. As 7 Oct. Also COMUS. As 7 Oct.
COMMENT. Receipts: £281 15s. (281/6/6; 0/8/6).

CHR THE MOURNING BRIDE. Osmyn – A Young Gentleman (Pupil to Newton; 1st appearance on any stage [unidentified]); Gonzalez – Lloyd; Garcia – Garland of Deptford; Selim – Johnson; Perez – Kenny; Alonzo – Dancer; Heli – Smith; King – Comerford // Zara – A Young Lady [unidentified]; Leonora – Miss C. Newton; Almeria (the Mourning Bride) – Miss Reynolds. Also THE LIFE AND DEATH OF HARLEQUIN. Harlequin (for that night only) – Loutherbrough; Pantaloon – Russell; Frenchman – Smith; Clown – Newton; Colombine – Miss Reynolds. Also THE CITIZEN. Old Philpot – Ware of Deptford; Young Wilding – Sparks; Old Wilding – Taylor of Deptford; Dapper – Dancer; Quildrive – Smith; Beaufort – Johnson; Young Philpot – Garland // Maria (with *Theatrical Imitations*) – Miss Reynolds.

SINGING. As 25 Sept.

MONOLOGUE. End of 3rd piece *Bucks have at ye all* by Master Russell.

COMMENT. Benefit for Mrs Newton, box-keeper. As Newton superintends the whole Performance of the Play, Farce and Interlude, the greatest care will be taken to gratify the taste of a most generous Public. Tickets to be had of Mrs Newton at the Seven Houses.

Tuesday 15
DL THE COMMITTEE; or, The Faithful Irishman. Teague (with *songs*) – Moody; Col. Careless – Jefferson; Col. Blunt – Aickin; Lieut. Story – Fawcett; Mr Day – Baddeley; Obadiah – Parsons; Abel – Burton; Committee-Men – Waldron, &c. // Mrs Day – Mrs Bradshaw; Arabella – Miss Jarratt; Ruth – Miss Pope. [Edition of 1792 (John Bell) adds: Tavern-boy – Everard; Bailiff – Griffiths; Soldier – Blanchard; Chairman – Heath; Gaol-keeper – Kear; Bookseller – Carpenter; Porter – Wrihten // Mrs Chat – Mrs Cartwright.] Also THE WATERMAN. As 5 Oct.

COMMENT. [As afterpiece *Public Advertiser* announces THE RIVAL CANDIDATES, but see Hopkins Diary, 12 Oct.]

The Managers met again to-day, but nothing settled. Hamlet was given out. I saw Mr Sheridan, he told me that Mr Lacy and he had agreed that no Play should be given out, nor any Bills put up, till they had settled this Affair, which was to be done to-morrow at Mr Wallis’s (the Attorney’s) where they were all to dine. I waited on Mr Lacy, who agreed to the same, and no Bills or Paragraph were sent to the Papers. All the Business of the Theatre is at a Stand, and no Rehearsal called. *Wed. 16th*—Mr Sheridan, Dr Ford and Mr Linley dined today by Appointment with Mr Wallis where Mr Lacy was to have met them; about four o’clock he sent a verbal Message that he could not come to Dinner, but would wait upon them in the Evening, and about nine o’clock he came, and everything was settled to the Satisfaction (of them all) and a Paragraph sent to the Papers, and the Hypocrite and Christmas Tale was advertised for Friday, but no Play was to be done on Thursday—Covent Garden did not play on Friday (Hopkins Diary).

Public Advertiser, 16 Oct., summarizes the proprietors’ dispute: the Drury Lane patent had been purchased [in 1747] by David Garrick and James Lacy. On his death Lacy had devised his half-share to his son, Willoughby Lacy; on his