

## February 1785

- THE CONFEDERACY.** As 10 Dec. 1784. Also **ARTHUR AND EMMELINE.** *Tuesday 1*  
As 22 Nov. 1784, but Osmond – Staunton. DL  
COMMENT. Receipts: £142 17s. (103/1/0; 39/11/6; 0/4/6).
- THE FOLLIES OF A DAY.** As 29 Jan. Also **ROSINA.** As 28 Oct. 1784, but CG  
Rosina – Miss Wheeler (1st appearance in that character).
- IL PITTORE PARIGINO.** As 25 Jan. King's  
DANCING. As 22 Jan. throughout.  
COMMENT. Opera: With Alterations.
- MACBETH.** Macbeth – Smith; Banquo – Hull [of CG]; Duncan – Packer; Ross – *Wednesday 2*  
Aickin; Malcolm – R. Palmer; Macduff – Brereton; Hecate – Bannister; Witches – DL  
Parsons, Moody, Baddeley // Lady Macbeth – Mrs Siddons. Also **THE GUARDIAN.** The Guardian – Hull [of CG]; Sir Charles Clackit – Parsons; Young Clackit – Dodd // Lucy – Mrs Wilson; Harriet – Miss Kemble.  
SINGING. In mainpiece: The Original *Music* by Matthew Locke, with additional Accompaniments, by Bannister, Dignum, Suett, Chapman, Barrymore, Williams, Wilson, Fawcett // Miss Phillips, Miss Field, Mrs Love, Mrs Booth, Miss Barnes, Mrs Burnett, Miss Simson, Miss Cranford, Miss Burnett, Mrs Smith, the Miss Stageldoirs, Miss George, Mrs Wrihten. [This was sung, as here assigned, in all subsequent performances, except on 4 Feb.]  
COMMENT. Benefit for Mrs Siddons. Part of the Pit will be laid into the Boxes. To prevent confusion Ladies are desired to send their Servants by half past Four o'Clock. Mainpiece: Not acted these 4 years [acted 15 May 1782]. Afterpiece: Not acted these 5 years [not acted since 25 Mar. 1775].  
[In mainpiece the playbill assigns Banquo to Bensley, but "Poor Bensley's illness last night took him off; but on another night he will give and take in the triumph" (*Public Advertiser*, 4 Feb.). In afterpiece he is assigned to The Guardian. On the Kemble playbill in both cases his name is deleted and MS annotations substitute Hull's.] "*Macbeth* at Drury-lane will . . . gag the drivellers who, on the failure of Constance [in *King John*], ventured a sweeping prophecy of condemnation that 'the Siddons never could play Shakespeare.' Would it not have been better to have borrowed Farren, rather than Hull, for Banquo?" (*Public Advertiser*, 4 Feb.). "Why, say some of the critics, 'should Mrs Siddons wear a white dress in her last scene of *Lady Macbeth*? She is supposed to be asleep, not mad.' What reason except custom can be given for a *mad* heroine appearing in white we know not [and see DL, 20 Dec. 1782]. Yet there is an obvious reason why a person walking in their sleep should wear a white dress of the loose kind worn by Mrs Siddons . . . It [is] the nearest resemblance which theatrical effect will admit, to the common sort of night-dresses" (*Public Advertiser*, 7 Feb.).  
Receipts: £346 16s. (198/10/0; 7/2/6; 0/8/6; tickets: 140/15/0) (charge: free).
- ALL IN THE WRONG.** As 14 Jan. Also **THE MAID OF THE OAKS.** As CG  
14 Jan., but Henry – Kennedy.  
DANCING. As 14 Jan.
- THE BEGGAR'S OPERA.** As 25 Sept. 1784. Also **THE CALDRON.** As *Thursday 3*  
28 Jan. DL  
DANCING. As 2 Oct. 1784.  
COMMENT. **THE NATURAL SON** [announced on playbill of 2 Feb.] is obliged to be deferred on Account of the Indisposition of Bensley. Receipts: £135 or. 6d. (102/9/0; 31/18/0; 0/6/0; tickets not come in: 0/7/6).