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Thursday 19

LIFE'S VAGARIES. Characters by Lewis, Quick, Johnstone, Munden, Fawcett, Bernard, Townsend, Farley, Thompson, Rees, Davenport, Burton, Rock, Follett, Cross, Williamson, Ledger, Wilde, Blurton, Abbot // Miss Wallis, Mrs Lee (1st appearance on this stage), Miss Stuart, Mrs Platt, Mrs Watts, Miss Leserve, Mrs Pope. [Cast from text (T. N. Longman, 1795), and O'Keeffe's Dramatic Works, Vol. 1 (T. Woodfall, 1798), and playbill of 27 Nov. 1795: Arthur D'Aumerle -Lewis; Dickins - Quick; Timolin - Johnstone; Sir Hans Burgess - Munden; George Burgess – Fawcett; Lord Torrendel – Bernard; Robin Hoofs – Townsend; L'Oeillet - Farley; Coachman - Thompson; Tradesmen - Davenport, Follett, Cross, Williamson; John - Ledger; Constable - Blurton; Robinson - Abbot; Thomas - Simmons // Augusta - Miss Wallis; Fanny - Mrs Lee; Miss Clare -Miss Stuart; Landlady - Mrs Platt; Fruit Woman - Mrs Watts; Martha - Miss Leserve; Lady Torrendel - Mrs Pope. Rees, Burton, Rock, Wilde are unassigned.] Prologue spoken by Middleton. [This was spoken, as here assigned, at all subsequent performances. An Address, by way of Epilogue, not listed on playbill, was spoken by Lewis (Pocket Magazine, Mar. 1795, p. 198. It was probably intended to introduce Mrs Lee.] Also ROSINA. As 24 Sept. 1794, but Rosina - Mrs Clendining.

SINGING. In mainpiece, I can dance and sing, by Mrs Lee. [Not listed on playbill, but see BUC, p. 619.]

COMMENT. Mainpiece [1st time; C 5, by John O'Keeffe. Prologue by John Taylor (see text). Address by John Wolcot (*Pocket Magazine*, supra)]: With new Dresses and Decorations. [Mrs Lee was from the Salisbury theatre.] Morning Chronicle, 11 May 1795: This Day is published LIFE'S VAGARIES (2s.). Receipts: £268 3s. 6d. (259/19/6; 8/4/0).

Friday 20 CG THE MESSIAH. Principal Vocal Performers as 11 Mar.

[Morning Herald, 21 Mar., refers to the following: Comfort ye by Kelly; Rejoice and I know that my redeemer liveth by Miss Parke ("her sublime performance was rewarded with six successive plaudits"); He was despised by Nield; But thou didst not leave by Mrs Hindmarsh. And see 27 Mar.]

MUSIC. End of Part II 8th concerto of Corelli.

COMMENT. Principal Instrumental Performers as 4 Mar.

HAY

THE THESPIAN PANORAMA. As II Mar. throughout, but added: Mrs Wells will appear for the last time in public.

COMMENT. Morning Herald, 21 Mar.: The chief novelty was the Imitations of Mrs Wells, which were given in a very admirable stile.

Saturday 21 DL EDWY AND ELGIVA. Characters by Kemble, Aickin, Palmer, Barrymore, Caulfield, Whitfield, Bensley, Benson, C. Kemble, Trueman, Packer, Banks, Maddocks, Phillimore // Mrs Siddons, Mrs Powell. [Cast from text, ed. M. J. Benkovitz (Hamden, Conn.: Shoe String Press, 1957): Edwy – Kemble; Odo – Aickin; Aldhelm – Palmer; Cerdic – Barrymore; Ernulf – Caulfield; Redwald – Whitfield; Dunstan – Bensley; Orgar – Benson; Sigebert – C. Kemble; Kenred – Trueman; Leofric – Packer; Officer [unassigned in text] – Banks; Peasant – Maddocks; Ruffians – Phillimore, Evans // Elgiva – Mrs Siddons; Eltruda – Mrs Powell.] Prologue spoken by Barrymore. Epilogue spoken by Mrs Siddons. Also Alexander the Great. As 3 Mar.

COMMENT. Mainpiece [1st time; T 5, by Frances D'Arblay. Prologue by the author (see text). Author of Epilogue unknown]. "It did not fail to keep [the audience] in the height of good humour, by frequent irresistible claims on their risible faculties; a particular instance of this was in Elgiva's dying scene, when a passing stranger, in a fine tragic tone, says, 'Let us carry her to the other side of the hedge.' This hedge, which is supposed to be remotely situated from any dwelling, nevertheless proved to be a very accommodating retreat; for, in a few

minutes after, the wounded lady is brought from behind it on an elegant couch, and, after dying in the presence of her husband, is carried off and placed once more 'on the other side of the hedge.' The laughter which this scene occasioned, although supported by the dying words of Mrs Siddons, was inconceivable" (Morning Herald, 23 Mar.).

Saturday 21

Powell, 20 Mar.: Edwy and Elgiva rehearsed at 10; 21 Mar.: Edwy and Elgiva rehearsed at 10. Receipts: £350 19s. (296/4/6; 51/9/0; 3/5/6).

LIFE'S VAGARIES. AS 19 Mar. Also THE HIGHLAND REEL. AS 11 Nov. 1794, but Jenny – Mrs Arnold; Moggy – Mrs Lee (1st appearance in that character). COMMENT. Receipts: £244 5s. (233/2/6; 11/2/6).

CG

ACI E GALATEA. Principal Characters by Brida, Rovedino // Mme Banti. [Cast from libretto (C. Clarke, 1795): Aci – Brida; Polifemo – Rovedino; Oronte – Bonfanti; Lisia - Braghetti // Galatea - Mme Banti; Dorinda - Sga Colombati.] DANCING. As 28 Feb. throughout.

King's

COMMENT. A New Opera (1st time [in London; 1st performed at Venice, 1792]), accompanied with Chorusses; the music entirely new, composed [i.e. revised] here by Bianchi. With entirely new Scenes, designed by Hamilton and executed by Walmsley, Dresses and Decorations.

THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE. As 16 Mar. Also ALEXANDER THE GREAT.

Monday 23

COMMENT. Powell: Jack of Newbury (music) rehearsed at 10; Welch Heiress read at 12. [With this entry Powell's notes come to an end.] Receipts: £413 10s. (353/0/6; 56/8/0; 4/1/6).

LIFE'S VAGARIES. AS 19 Mar. Also OSCAR AND MALVINA. AS 17 Mar. CG MUSIC. As 5 Mar.

COMMENT. Receipts: £250 1s. 6d. (242/9/6; 7/12/0).

THE GAMESTER. As 21 Oct. 1794, but Lewson – Barrymore; omitted: Waiter. Also ALEXANDER THE GREAT. As 3 Mar. COMMENT. Receipts: £326 8s. (279/3/0; 45/14/6; 1/10/6).

Tuesday 24 DL

LIFE'S VAGARIES. As 19 Mar. Also NETLEY ABBEY. As 17 Sept. 1794, CG but Ellen Woodbine - Mrs Follett. COMMENT. Receipts: £220 9s. (212/18/6; 7/10/6).

ACI E GALATEA. As 21 Mar. DANCING. End of Act I New Divertisement, as 28 Feb.; End of Act II L'Espiègle Soubrette, as 24 Jan.

King's

A GRAND SELECTION OF SACRED MUSIC. Principal Vocal Performers omitted, but see 11 Mar.

Wednesday 25

PART I. Overture (SAMSON). Te men of Gaza by Mrs Hindmarsh; Awake the trumpets by Chorus (SAMSON). Tears such as tender fathers shed by Bartleman (DEBORAH). Thy right hand, O Lord by Chorus (ISRAEL IN EGYPT). In sweetest barmony by Miss Parke; O fatal day by Chorus (SAUL). Lord, remember David by Nield [REDEMPTION]. He gave them hailstones by Chorus [ISRAEL IN EGYPT].

PART II. Overture and Dead March (SAUL). Happy Iphis by Master Elliot (JEPHTHA). The Mighty Power by Chorus (ATHALIA). O Liberty by Kelly, accompanied on the violoncello by G. Ashley [JUDAS MACCABAEUS]. Tyrants would by Miss Parke; Wby should Salem by Chorus (ATHALIA). Honour and Arms by Bartleman; Then round about by Chorus (SAMSON). Sweet Bird by Miss Parke, accompanied [on the violoncello] by G. Ashley [L'ALLEGRO]. He rebuked the Red Sea by Chorus (ISRAEL IN EGYPT).

