

- THE WAY TO GET MARRIED. As 27 Feb. Also LOCK AND KEY. As 2 Feb. *Monday 7*
CG
COMMENT. Receipts: £220 13s. 6d. (216/15/6; 3/18/0).
- EDWARD THE BLACK PRINCE. *Cast not known.* ROY
COMMENT. "Edward the Black Prince was performed at the Royalty Theatre on Monday evening, by a private party of Gentlemen" (*Morning Herald*, 9 Mar., which makes no mention of an afterpiece).
- LOVE FOR LOVE. As 7 Jan., but Valentine – Whitfield; Scandal – Barrymore. *Tuesday 8*
Also THE DEVIL TO PAY. As 14 Dec. 1795. DL
COMMENT. Receipts: £217 4s. 6d. (146/16/6; 66/7/0; 4/1/0).
- THE WAY TO GET MARRIED. As 27 Feb. Also LOCK AND KEY. As 2 Feb. CG
COMMENT. Receipts: £188 6s. 6d. (183/18/6; 4/8/0).
- I TRACI AMANTI. As 1 Mar. King's
DANCING. End of Act I *A Divertissement*, by Didelot, Mlle Parisot, Mme Hilligsberg, Mme Rose, in which a *Pas de Deux*, in Polish Character, by Didelot and Mme Rose; End of Opera *Le Bouquet*, as 5 Mar.
- GENERAL FAST. *Wednesday 9*
- MY GRANDMOTHER. As 30 Dec. 1795. Also THE CHILD OF NATURE. *Thursday 10*
As 29 Dec. 1795. Also THE PRIZE. As 19 Sept. 1795, but Mrs Caddy – Miss DL
Tidswell.
COMMENT. Receipts: £282 3s. 6d. (211/7/0; 61/18/6; 8/18/0).
- THE WAY TO GET MARRIED. As 18 Feb. Also LOCK AND KEY. As 2 Feb. CG
COMMENT. Receipts: £206 2s. 6d. (202/12/6; 3/10/0).
- LA BELLA ARSENE. As 12 Dec. 1795, but added: Sga Colombati, Sga Pastorelli. King's
DANCING. End of Act I *Divertissement* [*performers not listed*, but see 8 Mar.]; End of Opera *Les Trois Sultanes* by Didelot, Onorati, Gentili, Mme Rose, Mlle Parisot, Mme Bossi, Mlle Berry, Mme Hilligsberg.
SINGING. In the Opera a new *trio*, composed by Mazzinghi, by Mme Banti, Rovedino, Roselli; In Act I an *Air* by Mme Banti which was erased on account of the length of the Opera, and a new additional *Air* by Roselli.
MUSIC. End of Act II a *concerto* on the violin, composed by Jarnowick, by Master Juliano, a child of only 8 years old, patronised by the Duchess of York.
COMMENT. Under the Patronage of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York. Benefit for Roselli. Tickets, 10s. 6d. each, to be had of Roselli, No. 6, King-street, St. James's-square.
- THE MESSIAH. Principal Vocal Performers as 4 Mar. To be opened by Mme *Friday 11*
Mara. CG
MUSIC. End of Part I *concerto* on the harp by Mme Delaval.
- THE IRON CHEST. Characters by Kemble, Wroughton, Bannister Jun., Dodd, *Saturday 12*
Barrymore, Suett, Master Welsh, Kelly, R. Palmer, Dignum, Sedgwick, Phillimore, DL
Bannister, Master Webb, Banks, Hollingsworth, Trueman, Webb, Maddocks, Keys, Whitmell // Miss Farren, Mrs Gibbs, Miss Tidswell, Sga Storace, Miss Granger, Miss De Camp. [Cast from text (Cadell & Davies, 1796), and *London Chronicle*, 14 Mar.: Sir Edward Mortimer – Kemble; Fitzharding – Wroughton;

Saturday 12
DL

Wilford – Bannister Jun.; Adam Winterton – Dodd; Rawbold – Barrymore; Samson – Suett; Boy – Master Welsh; Armstrong – Kelly; Orson – R. Palmer; Robbers – Dignum, Sedgwick, Phillimore, Bannister; Robber's Boy – Master Webb; Peter – Banks; Cook – Hollingsworth; Gregory – Trueman; Simon – Webb; Walter – Maddocks // Helen – Miss Farren; Blanch – Mrs Gibbs; Dame Rawbold – Miss Tidswell; Barbara – Sga Storage; Girl – Miss Granger; Judith – Miss De Camp. Keys, Whitmell are unassigned.] Also HARLEQUIN CAPTIVE. *Cast not listed*, but see 22 Jan.

SINGING. Mainpiece: The General Chorus by Cooke, Danby, Evans, Welsh, Wentworth, J. Fisher, Master De Camp, Master Gregson, Atkins, Brown, Denman, Fisher, Tett, Aylmer, Caulfield Jun., Dibble, Gallot, Willoughby, Annereau, Bardoleau, Cook, &c. // Miss Arne, Mrs Boimaison, Mrs Bramwell, Mrs Butler, Miss Mellon, Miss Wentworth, Mrs Maddocks, Miss Chatterley, Miss Menage, Miss Stuart, Miss Jackson, &c.

COMMENT. Mainpiece [1st time; MD3, by George Colman, the younger]: The Scenery and Dresses are entirely new. The Musick composed by Storage. The Scenes designed and executed by Greenwood and Capon [the Gothic library was painted by Capon (*Oracle*, 21 Mar. 1796)]. The Dresses by Johnston, Gay and Miss Rein. Books of the Songs to be had in the Theatre.

[When Colman published his play he prefaced it with an acrimonious attack on Kemble, in which he accused him of deliberately trying to make the play a failure. But almost without exception the contemporary reviews excused Kemble's performance on the grounds of his obvious indisposition, and agreed that the play itself was unsatisfactory. "The play failed, and we are sorry to say did not merit to succeed . . . Kemble, who was tormented with an incessant cough, said he could not but be sensible that much of the displeasure of the house proceeded from *his* deficiency in a principal character . . . The whole audience with one voice cried out, 'No, no, Kemble—it is not your fault'" (*Oracle*, 14 Mar.). "The dialogue is extremely heavy, and there is little or no incident to relieve the tedium of more than four hours representation . . . Sir Edward Mortimer is a being distracted, with no adequate cause; a prey to remorse, which he of all men was the last to feel from the principles that make up his being. This therefore is the radical moral defect of the piece. But there is another which, though not equally strong, is equally fatal: there is no progression of interest, there is no involution of plot, there is no development of character" (*Star*, 14 Mar.). Other notices of the opening night were much in the same vein. Subsequently Colman revised the play, and it held the stage for many years. "The curtailments which have been made shorten the representation near an hour and a half, and the alterations are many and judicious" (*Morning Herald*, 21 Mar. 1796).

Morning Herald, 23 July 1796: This Day is published THE IRON CHEST (2s.). Receipts: £471 9s. (468/13; 2/16).

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COMMENT. Receipts: £268 17s. (261/6; 7/11).

King's LA BELLA ARSENE. *Cast not listed*, but see 10 Mar.
DANCING. End of Act I *Divertissement*, as 10 Mar.; End of Opera *Le Bouquet*, as 5 Mar.

Monday 14
DL THE CHILD OF NATURE. As 29 Dec. 1795, but Amanthis – Miss Mellon. Also THE HUMOURIST. As 12 Dec. 1795, but omitted: Beaumont, Blunt, Servants. Also NO SONG NO SUPPER. As 7 Mar.

COMMENT. [There are two Kemble playbills for this night. The first announces NO SONG NO SUPPER and THE CHILD OF NATURE (with Mrs Jordan as Amanthis) and THE SPOIL'D CHILD (with Mrs Jordan as Little Pickle). The second carries the notice: The Publick are most respectfully informed that, on