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Wednesday 11

COMMENT. [2nd piece in place of THE ORPHAN; 3rd piece of BLUNDERS AT BRIGHTON [i.e. THE IRISH MIMIC], both advertised on playbill of 9 Oct.] "Where [Lewis] absolutely exceeded all expectation, even from spirits like his own, was in the first scene of the fifth act, where he meets with Cacasogo, who has been cozened, too, and by a woman also (indeed the same woman); the convulsive joy of his *laugh*, frequently renewed, and invariably compelling the whole audience to a really painful sympathy, was one of the most brilliant exploits of the comedian . . . [Lewis] had one peculiarity, which was the richest in effect that could be imagined, and was always an addition to the character springing from himself. It might be called an attempt to take advantage of the lingering sparks of gallantry in the aunt, or the mother of sixty, or the ancient maiden whom he had to win, to carry the purposes of those for whom he was interested. He seemed to throw the lady by degrees off her guard, until at length his whole artillery of assault was applied to storm the struggling resistance; and the Mattockses and the Davenports of his attentions sometimes complained of the perpetual motion of his chair, which compelled them to a ludicrous retreat, and kept the spectator in a roar of laughter. In short, whether sitting or standing, he was never for a moment at rest—his figure continued to exhibit a series of undulating lines, which indicated a selfcomplacency that never tired, and the sparkling humour of his countenance was a signal hung out for enjoyment" (Boaden, Siddons, II, 364-66). Receipts: £365 4s. 6d. (357/6/6; 7/18/0).

Thursday 12

Rule A Wife and Have a Wife. Duke – Barrymore; Don Juan – Packer; Sanchio – Holland; Alonzo – C. Kemble; Michael Perez – Palmer; Leon – Kemble; Cacafogo – Dowton; Lorenzo – Trueman; Servants – Maddocks, Webb, Evans // Margarita – Mrs Powell; Altea – Miss Tidswell; Clara – Miss Heard; Estifania – Mrs Jordan (1st appearance in that character); Old Ladies – Mrs Maddocks, Mrs Coates, Mrs Jones; Old Woman – Mr Suett; Maid – Mr Grimaldi; Maid to Estifania – Mrs Roffey. Also The Chimney Corner. As 7 Oct. Comment. Receipts: £277 17s. (207/6/6; 67/11/6; 2/19/0).

CG PERCY. Percy - Holman; Raby - Murray; Hubert - Clarke; Harcourt - Claremont; Edrick - Toms; Knight - Thompson; Douglas - Pope // Birtha - Miss Mansel; Elwina - Miss Betterton (from the Theatre Royal, Bath; 1st appearance on this stage). Also RAYMOND AND AGNES. As 9 Oct., but added: Blurton, Cranfield.

DANCING. Afterpiece: To conclude with a Finale and Spanish Fandango.

MONOLOGUE. Preceding mainpiece an Occasional Address spoken by Holman.

COMMENT. Mainpiece: Not acted these 12 years. [Address by Richard Cumberland (London Chronicle, 13 Oct.).] Receipts: £130 9s. (124/1; 6/8).

THE ORPHAN; or, The Unhappy Marriage. Castalio - Pope; Acasto - Hull; Polydore - Clarke; Chaplain - Powel; Ernesto - Thompson; Page - Master Standen; Chamont - Holman // Serina - Miss Mansel; Florella - Miss Leserve; Monimia - Mrs Spencer (from the Theatre Royal, Dublin; 1st appearance on this stage). Also A DIVERTISEMENT. As 2 Oct.

DANCING. As 2 Oct., but omitted: Mrs Watts.

COMMENT. Mainpiece: Not acted these 4 years. [In mainpiece the playbill assigns Acasto to Murray, but "An apology was made for Murray, who was prevented by illness from playing Acasto, which, at a short notice, was taken by Hull" (True Briton, 14 Oct.).] "The whole of [Mrs Spencer's] performance was marked by such unaffected simplicity that it was almost impossible to consider it as the mere fiction of the scene. This lady is really a great aquisition to the house" (True Briton, ibid). Receipts: £254 61. 6d. (244/18/6; 9/8/0).

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