

- SEMIRAMIDE. As 9 Jan. Saturday 13
DANCING. As 30 Dec. 1797 throughout. King's
- THE CASTLE-SPECTRE. As 14 Dec. 1797. Also THE SHIPWRECK. As Monday 15
 8 Jan. DL
 COMMENT. Notwithstanding the great demand for places for THE CASTLE-SPECTRE, the system of giving as much Novelty as possible at this Theatre necessarily prevents its repetition till Monday next. Receipts: £381 1s. (329/17/6; 50/12/6; 0/11/0).
- SECRETS WORTH KNOWING. As 11 Jan. Also HARLEQUIN AND QUIX- CG
 OTTE. As 28 Dec. 1797.
 COMMENT. By Command of Their Majesties. Receipts: £491 2s. 6d. (487/18/6; 3/4/0).
- THE MESSIAH. Principal Vocal Performers – Bartleman, Leete, Page, Walker, HAY
 Sale // Miss Leak, Miss Andrews, Miss Poole.
MUSIC. In the course of the performance a *solo* on the violin, of his own composition, by Barthélemon.
 COMMENT. By Permission of the Lord Chamberlain. Benefit for The Choral Fund, instituted for the Relief of their decayed Members, their Widows, and Orphans. Conductor – Dr Arnold. Leader of the Band – Barthélemon. Organ – Smart Jun. Principal Instrumental Performers – Lindley, Harrington, Holmes, Smart and Sons, Betts, Hyde, Lyon and Son, Boyce, Kauntze, French, Oliver, Dickenson, Manessier, Piercy, King, Brandi, Cubit and Son, Hoffman, Charlton, Gillingham, Buckinger, Nerborn, Wilcox, Mawby, Purryer, Barrett, Windsor, Jackson, Forrett, Fenny, Flack and Son, Dressler, Zwingman, &c. Double Drums – Jenkins. The Chorus will be selected, and assisted by the Young Gentlemen of the Westminster Choir.
 Boxes 5s. Pit 3s. 1st Gallery 2s. 2nd Gallery 1s. The Doors to be opened at 6:00. To begin precisely at 7:00. A Subscription of One Guinea will entitle the Subscriber to Five Box Tickets. Tickets to be had at the principal Music Shops, and of the Secretary, J. Vale, Old Bethlem, Bishopsgate. Tickets and Places for the Boxes to be had of Rice, at the Theatre.
- THE COUNTRY GIRL. As 22 Nov. 1797, but Moody – Wroughton; omitted: Tuesday 16
 Countryman, William. Also BLUE-BEARD; or, Female Curiosity! Abomelique DL
 (Blue-Beard) – Palmer; Ibrahim – Suett; Selim – Kelly; Shacabac – Bannister Jun.; Hassan – Hollingsworth; Mustapha – Webb; Aladin – Davis; Spahis – Sedgwick, Bannister, Dignum, Wathen, Trueman, Maddocks, &c.; Janizaries – Danby, Wentworth, Brown, Tett, Denman, Atkins, Phillimore, Fisher, Meyers, Peck, Bardoleau, Walker, Cook, J. Fisher, Dibble, Simpson, &c.; Male Peasants – Grimaldi, Gregson, Gallot, Aylmer, Potts, Willoughby, Evans, &c.; Male Slaves – Roffey, Thomson, Whitmell, Wells, Male, Garman, W. Banks, Nicolini // Fatima – Mrs Crouch, Irene – Miss De Camp; Beda – Mrs Bland; Female Peasants – Mmes Arne, Roffey, Wentworth, Jackson, Maddocks, Menage, &c.; Principal Dancer – Mlle Parisot (1st appearance this season); Female Slaves – Mmes Brooker, Daniels, Brigg, Haskey, Hillingsworth [*recte* Illingham], Byrne, Willis, Vining.
 COMMENT. Afterpiece [1st time; MD2, by George Colman, the younger, based on RAOUL BARBE BLEUE, by Michel Jean Sedaine (although, in the 1st edition of the play, this denied by Colman). Text (Cadell and Davies, 1798)]: The Scenery, Machinery, Dresses, and Decorations entirely new. The Musick composed and selected [from Paisiello] by Kelly. The Scenes designed and executed by Greenwood [Jun.], Chalmers, and others. The Machinery, Decorations, and Dresses designed and under the direction of Johnston, and executed by him, Underwood, Gay, and Miss Rein. Books of the Songs to be had in the Theatre. *Times*, 8 Feb. 1798: This Day is published BLUE BEARD (1s. 6d.).

- Tuesday 16**
DL “In the course of the representation, many blunders in working the scenery, which are unavoidable in a first representation of this nature, occurred, and the delays which took place were frequently very great . . . It was twelve o’clock before the curtain dropped . . . The expense of getting it up is said to be not less than £2,000” (*London Chronicle*, 18 Jan.).
- Proud swells the tide, with loads of capering heels,
And vacant Folly shouts applause in peals;
Hoards, even beyond the miser’s wish, are thrown,
To deck some sham farago for the town . . .
Money for dresses, money for new scenes,
New music, decorations, and machines;
The cost of these, including every freak,
Would pay ten decent players four pounds a week.
Anthony Pasquin (pseud. for John Williams), “Innovation,” in
The Devil [1787], II, no. 2, 46.
- Receipts: £319 14s. 6d. (216/17/6; 102/2/0; 0/15/0).
- CG** SECRETS WORTH KNOWING. As 11 Jan. Also HARLEQUIN AND QUIX-
OTTE. As 28 Dec. 1797.
COMMENT. Receipts: £255 12s. (251/19; 3/13).
- King’s** NINA. As 26 Dec. 1797.
DANCING. End of Act I *La Chasse d’Amour*, as 2 Jan.; End of Opera *Le Triomphe de*
Tbémis, as 26 Dec. 1797.
COMMENT. 2nd ballet: With material Alterations.
- Wednesday 17**
DL THE GAMESTER. As 15 Nov. 1797, but Lewson – Barrymore. Also BLUE-
BEARD. As 16 Jan.
COMMENT. Receipts: £379 5s. (268/2/6; 109/10/6; 1/12/0).
- CG** SECRETS WORTH KNOWING. As 11 Jan. Also HARLEQUIN AND QUIX-
OTTE. As 28 Dec. 1797.
COMMENT. Receipts: £272 4s. (267/9; 4/15).
- Thursday 18**
DL THE CONFEDERACY. As 11 Nov. 1797. Also BLUE-BEARD. As 16 Jan.
COMMENT. On account of the Indisposition of a principal performer, the new
Comedy of KNAVE OR NOT [advertised on playbill of 17 Jan.] is obliged to be
deferred till Tuesday next. Receipts: £325 0s. 6d. (208/5/6; 111/13/0; 5/2/0).
- CG** SECRETS WORTH KNOWING. As 11 Jan. Also HARLEQUIN AND QUIX-
OTTE. As 28 Dec. 1797.
COMMENT. Receipts: £240 14s. (233/9; 7/5).
- Friday 19**
DL ISABELLA. As 4 Dec. 1797, but omitted: Nurse. Also BLUE-BEARD. As 16 Jan.
SINGING. As 30 Oct. 1797.
COMMENT. Receipts: £385 8s. 6d. (266/2/0; 114/5/6; 5/1/0).
- CG** SECRETS WORTH KNOWING. As 11 Jan. Also HARLEQUIN AND QUIX-
OTTE. As 28 Dec. 1797.
COMMENT. Receipts: £262 18s. (256/15/6; 6/2/6).
- Saturday 20**
DL THE WILL. As 21 Sept. 1797, but Sir Solomon Cynic – Dowton; omitted: Robert,
Copsley. Also BLUE-BEARD. As 16 Jan.
COMMENT. “Could Kelly check that constant tempest of passion which
tears to rags almost every sentiment he delivers, the dialogue of the piece [BLUE-
BEARD] would be much improved” (*Times*, 20 Jan.). Receipts: £348 13s. 6d.
(241/2/0; 104/13/6; 2/18/0).