

- Friday 29
DL COMMENT. Paid Mr Calthorpe's first payment £157 10s.; Mr G. Garrick on acct £100; Tallow chandler's 5th bill, £42 2s. 3d. (Treasurer's Book). Receipts: £250 15s. 6d. (Treasurer's Book).
- CG KING HENRY VIII. As 6 Nov. 1772, but Surrey – Davis; Anne Bullen – Mrs Bulkley, first time. Lovell omitted. Also THE CITIZEN. As 28 Nov. 1772, but short bill, Beaufort, Jasper and Young Wilding omitted.
COMMENT. Afterpiece: By Particular Desire. *The Masque of Comus* oblig'd to be deferr'd. Paid Leverton & Co. (bricklayers) £182 19s. Paid Holme & Co. (timber merchants) £72 1s. Paid Evans (sawyer) £7 12s. (Account Book). Receipts: £168 16s. 6d.
- King's IL CID. *Cast not listed.*
DANCING. As 26 Jan.
- Saturday 30
DL [No Performance. King Charles's Martyrdom. No Play.]
COMMENT. Paid salary list 6 days at £87 1s. 3d. per diem, £522 7s. 6d.; Mr Dimon's salary in full 10s.; Rec'd stopages £18 7s. 6d. (Treasurer's Book).

February 1773

- Monday 1
DL THE FASHIONABLE LOVER. As 28 Oct. 1772, but Aubrey – Jefferson. Also THE WEDDING RING. Parts by Vernon, Bannister, Davies, Mrs Wrighten, Mrs Smith. [Zerbino – Vernon; Pandolfo – Bannister; Henrico – Davies; Lisetta – Mrs Wrighten; Felicia – Mrs Smith (Genest, v, 350-51).]
COMMENT. Music of Afterpiece entirely new Composed by Dibdin. [An adaptation of Goldoni's *Il Filosofo di Campagna*.] Book of Songs to be had at Theatre (playbill). The Wed^{es} R. a Comic Opera of Two Acts wrote & Composed by Mr Dibdin. The Music very pretty—as the Author was kept a Secret The Town fancy'd that is one of Mr Bickerstaff & call'd out to know who was the Author. Mr Garrick inform'd them that he had no power to declare who the Author was but he could assure them that it was not Mr Bickerstaffs this did not Satisfy them at last Mr Dibdin went on & declar'd himself to be the Author & made an Affidavit of it & then the Farce went on with Applause (Hopkins Diary). [Account of *The Wedding Ring* in *Westminster Magazine* for Feb. 1773.] Paid £4 4s. for licensing *The Wedding Ring* and *Alonzo* (Treasurer's Book). [Maria Macklin, in a MS letter to her father, 3 Feb. 1773, commented fully on this night's performance: "Written as it was suppos'd by Bickerstaffe. The music by Dibdin. I went with a party into the Gallery to see the event as there was a great riot expected, & indeed never did I see an audience more inflamed. They would not suffer them to begin the piece. At last Mr King came on with a written paper in his hand, which he said he was desir'd to read in the name of the managers. After a great noise they let him read it. He said iust before the play began the managers had receiv'd a letter from Mr Dibdin in which he declared that Bickerstaff was not the author of that piece, that he had made oath of it, and was ready to do the same again, but that for very particular reasons the author could not be given up. Then they stopp'd him & roar'd out that the author should be given up then. He continued as loud as he possibly could, reading on that 'but that if Mr Dibdin did not very soon give up the author he never should be suffered to appear again on that stage or any other.' Very luckily that turn'd them, as I believe the House would have come down. The piece then began. Before the end of the first act one of Bannister's songs were encor'd. The other party were against it and would not let it go on. They all

- stood up and insisted that the author should be known then. After some time the house being nothing but confusion, Dibdin was push'd upon the stage ready to drop with fright, and declared that he was the author himself. Then they were as noisy the other way. Made them finish the piece, but how you may guess in a storm. It is like the *Padlock*, but the songs not so good." (Brander Matthews, *Actors and Actresses*, extra illustrated, Vol. I. Harvard Theatre Collection.) *Westminster Magazine* this month included in parallel columns flattering "Characters of Mr Garrick and Mr Colman," the Rival managers. The article especially praised Garrick's acting.] Receipts: £252 3s. 6d.
- HAMLET.** As 4 Jan., but Ostrick – Lewes. Also **HARLEQUIN SORCERER.** CG
As 25 Jan.
COMMENT. Mainpiece: By Desire. Rec'd from Condell on Acct for Fruit Rent £20. Rec'd by an Overcharge in Mrs Lynn's Bill 7 Jan. last 12s., and by ditto in Messrs Benn & Pugh's Bill of 5 June last £2 14s. 6d. [Neither of these bills is recorded in the Account Books available.] Paid half year's water rate for the Theatre due Xmas, £3 (Account Book). Receipts: £218 15s. 6d.
- KING LEAR.** Lear – Barry; Edgar – Reddish; Gloucester – J. Aickin; Kent – Bransby; Bastard – Palmer; Gentleman Usher – Dodd; Burgundy – Yates; Albany – Packer; Cornwall – Hurst; Capt. of Guards – Ackman; Curan – Fawcett; Regan – Mrs Egerton; Cordelia – Mrs Barry; Goncril – Miss Sherry. Also **THE WEDDING RING.** As 1 Feb.
COMMENT. Paid Mr Weston per Mr G. Garrick's 3 notes £19 11s. 6d.; Mrs Robinson in full of salary £32. Receipts: £218 16s. (Treasurer's Book).
- ELFRIDA.** As 21 Nov. 1772. Also **CROSS PURPOSES.** As 5 Dec. 1772. CG
DANCING. End of Piece: *The Bird Catchers*, as 7 Dec. 1772.
COMMENT. Paid Patrick (tinman) £51 19s. (Account Book). As the tragedy of *Elfrida*, written (after the Greek manner) by that most excellent poet Mr Mason, has met with such singular applause at Covent Garden Theatre, I cannot help lamenting that our English Roscius has never had a play of Sophocles (translated into English blank verse) represented at Drury Lane. The plays in general, are the finest ever written; and the *Oedipus Tyrannus* is, in my opinion, the properest to be represented at present, both for the grandeur of the chorusses and the magnificence of the scenery. I mention this because I think this new species of drama would be better received, by an English audience, than all the Golden Pippins, or Nonpareils, that have lately appeared on the stage. (signed) CANTAB (*Gentleman's Magazine*, XLIII, 74). Receipts: £183 16s.
- IL CID.** *Cast not listed.* King's
DANCING. End of Opera: A New Grand Historical Ballet entitled *L'Isle Desert: Zelima* – Mlle Heinel; Hircanus – Fierville; End Act I, *Grand Serious Ballet* by Fierville, &c.; In Act II: *Grand Ballet* and *Grand Choruses.* End Act II: *Pastoral Dance* by Slingsby, Mlle Grenier, &c.
COMMENT. Ballet composed by D'Auvigne, ballet master.
- THE GAMESTERS.** As 30 Oct. 1772, but *Prologue* and *Epilogue* omitted. Also **THE WEDDING RING.** As 1 Feb. Wednesday 3
DL
COMMENT. Characters in Afterpiece New Dress'd. Paid Mr Weston per Mr G. G's note £4 11s. 7d. (Treasurer's Book). [King's costume in part of Wilding cost £8 12s. 3d. Payment made 4 March.] Receipts: £174 11s. (Treasurer's Book).
- THE JEALOUS WIFE.** As 28 Jan. Also **HARLEQUIN SORCERER.** As CG
25 Jan.