

Tuesday 7
CG

COMMENT. [Extra night] Benefit for the Fund, established for the Relief of those Performers who, through Infirmity, shall be obliged to retire from the Stage. The Theatrical Fund was established in 1765, under the auspices of the late Mr Beard and Mrs Rich; and received the sanction of Parliament in 1776. There are now, and have been for more than 20 years, several Annuitants supported by it, chiefly families and widows. Yet notwithstanding it has been so long set on foot, the interest arising from the Funded Capital has *never* been *equal* to defraying *one half* of the annual disbursements. The deficiencies have been continually supplied by *progressive weekly contributions* from the performers. When this is considered, it is respectfully presumed the generosity of a British Public will be exerted this night in favour of so liberal and beneficial an institution. Thomas Hull, Treasurer. Tickets to be had of Hull, Treasurer to the Institution, No. 7, Duke's-Court, near Dean's Yard, Westminster. Receipts: none listed.

King's

ANTIGONA. As 31 May.

DANCING. End of Act I *The Caravan at Rest*, as 2 June; End of Act II *L'Amour Vangé*, as 4 June.

COMMENT. The last Night of the Subscription. The Doors to be opened at 6:15. To begin at 7:15 exactly [same for rest of season].

Wednesday 8
DL

THE PURSE. As 30 May, but Sally (1st time) – Miss Leak. Also THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR. Sir John Falstaff – Palmer; Fenton – Trueman; Shallow – Waldron; Slender (1st time) – Russell; Mr Page – Packer; Mr Ford – Wroughton; Sir Hugh Evans (1st time) – Dodd; Dr Caius – Wewitzer; Host of the Garter – Moody; Bardolph – Hollingsworth; Pistol – R. Palmer; Nym – Webb; Robin – Master Kean; Simple – Burton // Mrs Page – Miss Pope; Mrs Ford (1st time) – Mrs Goodall; Mrs Ann Page (1st time) – Miss Heard; Mrs Quickly – Mrs Hopkins. Also THE GENTLE SHEPHERD. Sir William Worthy – Aickin; Patie (1st time) – Miss De Camp; Roger – Dignum; Symon – Moody; Glaud – Suett; Bauldy – Dodd // Peggy (1st time) – Miss Leak; Jenny (1st time) – Miss Mellon; Mause – Mrs Booth; Madge – Miss Tidswell.

COMMENT. Benefit for Burton, Miss Heard, Miss Tidswell & Mrs Bramwell. [2nd piece: With alterations by John Philip Kemble.] 3rd piece: Not acted these 6 years.

“Of [Wroughton's] comedy something favourable must be said. His personations are usually natural, easy, and spirited; he is perhaps too locomotive: he cannot bear to stand still . . . To this peculiar bustle of his motion may be attributed much of his success in Sir John Restless [in ALL IN THE WRONG] . . . For the same reason, no man can play Ford with half the effect Wroughton does” (*Montbly Mirror*, Mar. 1796, p. 304).

Morning Herald, 30 May: Tickets to be had of Miss Heard, No. 43, Haymarket [others not listed]. Receipts: £337 6s. 6d. (30/13/0; 40/16/6; 3/4/6; tickets: 260/10/0; odd money: 2/2/6) (charge: £202 11s.).

Thursday 9
DL

THE BELLE'S STRATAGEM. As 30 May, but Doricourt (for that night only) – Lewis (of CG). Also THE SULTAN. As 25 Apr., but omitted: Roxalana's song.

SINGING. End of Act I of mainpiece *Whither, my Love, Ah! Whither art thou fled?* (from THE HAUNTED TOWER) by Sga Storace; *From Shades of Night* by Braham, and *This fond Sorrow* by Braham and Sga Storace (both from MAHMOUD); End of Act II the celebrated Harp Song [*Ab che nel petto io sento*] from IDALIDE, by Mme Mara; In Act IV a Masquerade Scene, in which *Ally Croker* by Miss Leak and Master Welsh.

MONOLOGUE. End of mainpiece a new *Occasional Address* spoken by Mrs Jordan.

COMMENT. Benefit for the Widow and Three Orphan Children of the late Mr Benson. [Address by John Taylor (*Poems*, I, 62).] “Benson [who committed