

- Masters, and Scene-Painters. 'Tis said, that he has dispos'd every Thing in such a manner, and is so forward in his Preparations, that he will open the Campaign next Week, having three new Pieces in Rehearsal on the Stage of the little Theatre in the Hay-Market. The Design is, no doubt, laudable, but the Chance of War is doubtful; he makes head against a powerful Alliance; and we do not hear that he is strengthen'd by any of the Auxiliaries of Parnassus. Friday 7
HAY
- THE BEGGAR'S OPERA. As 7 Jan. Saturday 8
DANCING. As 5 Jan. DL
- THE CONSCIOUS LOVERS. As 22 Oct. 1736, but Indiana – Mrs Horton; Isabella – Mrs Mullart. Also THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE. As 8 Oct. CG
COMMENT. Mainpiece: Written by the late Sir Richard Steele. Mrs Pendarves to Mrs Ann Granville, 8 Jan.: I was this morning regaled with Mr Handel's new opera called Arminius, it was rehearsed at Covent Garden.—Delany, *Autobiography*, I, 587.
- MEROPE. *Cast not listed*, but edition of 1736 lists: Merope – Signora Antonia Merighi; Epitide – Carlo Broschi, called Farinello; Polifonte – Francesco Tolve; Argia – Signora Eliz. du Parc, called Francescina; Trasimede – Signora Marg. Chimenti, called Droghierina; Anassandro – Antonio Montagnana. King's
COMMENT. A New Opera. [Text by Xenos. Music by Broschi.] Lucy Wentworth, 8 Jan.: My mama has been so good to give me leave to goe to the Opera to night with Lady Anne. 'Tis to be a new one call'd Merophy, but the foolish Buffo's are to be left out which I am very glad of, but am sorry they are to have five hundred pound a piece for acting that silly stuff two nights if one may believe Mr Hamilton. The Opera is to be heard but once for he says 'tis the worst that ever was composed.—*Wentworth Papers*, p. 528.
- THE DEFEAT OF APOLLO. Rehearsed. HAY
COMMENT. *Daily Advertiser*, 11 Jan.: The Prologue to The Defeat of Apollo, which, in Compliment to some Gentlemen, was spoke last Saturday at the Rehearsal, encourages the Town to hope for what is new and entertaining. [For additional puffs, see *Daily Advertiser*, 11 and 12 Jan.]
- KING LEAR AND HIS THREE DAUGHTERS. Lear – Quin; Gloucester – Berry; Edgar – Milward; Edmund – W. Mills; Kent – Winstone; Gentleman Usher – Cibber; Cordelia – Miss Holyday. Also THE FALL OF PHAETON. Monday 10
As 11 Dec. 1736. DL
COMMENT. At the particular Desire of several Ladies of Quality. Mainpiece: Alter'd from Shakespear, by N. Tate, Esq.
- THE OLD BATCHELOR. Old Batchelor – Bridgwater; Belmour – Walker; Fondlewife – Hippisley; Vainlove – Ryan; Sharper – Marshall; Setter – Chapman; Sir Joseph – Neale; Bluff – Mullart; Laetitia – Mrs Horton; Belinda – Mrs Bellamy; Araminta – Mrs Templer; Sylvia – Miss Bincks; Lucy – Mrs Stevens. CG
Also FLORA. Hob – Laguerre, but see 17 Sept. 1736.
DANCING. *French Peasant* as 9 Nov. 1736. *Hornpipe* by Ferguson.
COMMENT. Benefit a Family under Misfortunes. At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality. Mainpiece: Written by the late Mr Congreve.
- ALL ALIVE AND MERRY; or, Men in Pursuit of Money. All-Alive-and-Merry by Lord Flame [Samuel Johnson of Chesire]; others by W. Giffard, Hewitt, Norris, Lyon, Rosco, Penkethman, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Charke, Mrs Chambers, Miss Tollett, Miss Burgess, Mrs M. Giffard. And a new Prologue spoken by Giffard. With a New Hieroglyphical Dancing Epilogue. Also THE BEGGAR'S PANTOMIME. LIF
Cast not listed, but see 31 Dec. 1736.