

- Friday 22**
CG SHE WOU'D AND SHE WOU'D NOT. As 27 Jan. Also THE DEVIL TO PAY. Sir John – Mattocks; Jobson – Dunstall; Lady Loverule – Mrs Pitt; Nell – Mrs Green.
DANCING. III: *The Wapping Landlady* and *Double Hornpipe*, as 27 April; End of Play: By Desire, Pantomime Ballet (5th time) by Mas. Blurton and Miss Besford as 27 April.
COMMENT. Benefit for Green and Ansell (box-keepers). Charges £81 5s. [Deficit to Green and Ansell £25 11s. 6d. apiece, covered by income from tickets: Green £134 8s. (Box 417; Pit 179; Gallery 33); Ansel £106 18s. (Box 312; Pit 162; Gallery 46).] Rec'd from Condell in full for fruit rent this season £20 (Account Book). Receipts: £30 2s. (Account Book).
- Saturday 23**
DL RULE A WIFE. As 7 March, but Copper Capt. – King, 1st time. Also MISS IN HER TEENS. As 27 April, but Tag – Mrs Bennet.
MUSIC. End of Play: *Concerto on Harpsicbord* by Burney Jun.
COMMENT. Paid salary list £435 19s. (Treasurer's Book). Read the 2 remaining Acts of *Rule a Wife* . . . About 15 minutes past 4 went into y^e Pit, and contrary to my expectation got a seat almost in y^e middle of y^e 3rd row, which I prefer to any other. Garrick played Leon. By having seen him in the character before, and having read the play, I enjoyed the excellency of his acting more than I ever did. King played the Copper Captain for y^e first time, and did it very well. Pritchard is excellent in Estifania, Love and Baddeley were good in Cacafago and the Old Woman (Neville MS Diary). Receipts: £202 10s. (Treasurer's Book).
- CG LOVE IN A VILLAGE. As 11 Feb., but Eustace – Dyer. Also PERSEUS AND ANDROMEDA. As 29 Jan., but Mercury – Dibdin; Hussar – Weller; Petit Maitre – Baker. Magician omitted.
COMMENT. Mainpiece: By Particular Desire. Paid Mr Vincent for 3 sets of Abels Symphonies £2 5s. (Account Book). Receipts: £116 11s. (Account Book).
This was the last time Mr Beard appeared on the stage. John Beard Esq Buried in the vault (at Hampton) 12 Feb. 1791. This celebrated actor was bred up at the King's Chapel, and was afterwards one of the singers at the Duke of Chandos's Chapel at Canons, where he took a part in Handel's Oratorio of *Hester*. His first appearance on the stage was 30 August 1737, in the character of Sir John Loverule [*Devil to Pay*], at Drury Lane. In 1739 he married Lady Henrietta Herbert, daughter of James, Earl of Waldegrave, and Widow of Lord Edward Herbert. Upon this event he quitted the Stage. After a few years he returned to it again, and continued to be a great favourite with the public both as an actor and a vocal performer till 1767, when he finally retired from the theatre. Lady Henrietta Beard died in 1753; and in 1759 Mr Beard married a Daughter of John Rich Esq Patentee of Covent Garden Theatre. On this occasion he removed a second time to that theatre, where he had acted from 1744 to 1748; and on the death of his father-in-law in 1761, was appointed Manager. Mr Beard, who was as much esteem'd in private life as he was admired on the stage, was for many years an Inhabitant of Hampton. See Lysons's *Middlesex Parishes*, p. 89 and 80. Mr Beard died 4 Feb. 1791, aged 74 years. See his Epitaph, *ibidem*. See Lady Beard's Epitaph in St Pancreas Churchyard (Hopkins MS Notes).
- King's LA BUONA FIGLIUOLA. *Cast not listed*. See 25 Nov. 1766.
COMMENT. The 23rd Night.
- Monday 25**
DL THE PLAIN DEALER. As 5 Feb., but Freeman – J. Palmer; Fidelia – Mrs Lessingham, 1st time. Also THE REGISTER OFFICE. As 13 May.
DANCING. End of Play: By Particular Desire, a *Double Hornpipe* by Walker and Miss Watkins.

COMMENT. Benefit for Strange, Raftor, Walker, Watkins. House charges £69 15s. [Deficit to actors £49 7s.] Tickets delivered for this night will be taken. Paid B. Johnson's Head bill 18s. 11d. Rec'd of Condell 3rd payment £20 (Treasurer's Book). Receipts: £20 8s. (Treasurer's Book). Monday 25
DL

THE RIVAL QUEENS. As 23 March, but Alexander – Ross; Hephestion – R. Smith. Also THE DRAGON OF WANTLY. As 5 May. CG

DANCING. III: *A New Tambourine*, by Desire by Mas. Blurton, as 27 April; End of Play: *The Wapping Landlady* and *Double Hornpipe*, as 27 April.

COMMENT. Benefit for Charles Sarjant (book-keeper) and his Son (box-keeper). Tickets sold at doors not admitted. Afterpiece: For last time this season. Charges £89 6d. [Deficit to the Sarjants £11 16s., covered by income from tickets of £142 8s. (Box 346; Pit 260; Gallery 169).] Paid the Billsetters for Black Bills £4 10s. (Account Book). Receipts: £77 4s. 6d. (Account Book).

COMMENT. Neville MS Diary: We lighted at Somerset Coffee-house and soon after took a boat from Somerset stairs to Spring Gardens, Vauxhall, open for the first time this season. VAUX

These gardens are lighted by lamps disposed in different figures, with an orchestra from which the company are entertained from 7 to 10 with music . . . An artificial cascade from rocks which, continuing for 10 or 15 minutes only, has a fine effect. M. meeting with some acquaintance, we supped under the trees and after trying in vain to get a coach, returned and had some wine in one of the Boxes. I scarcely tasted any thing . . . all the wine at Vauxhall is vile. I proposed walking home, as it is very dangerous to go by water in the night. Half past 1 in the morning when I entered our house.

CYMBELINE. As 27 April, but Imogen – Mrs Lessingham, 1st time; Guiderius – Keen; Cloten – King; Queen – Mrs Bennet. Also THE REGISTER OFFICE. As 13 May. Tuesday 26
DL

SINGING. II: A Song, *The Judicious Choice* by Kear.

DANCING. End of Play: A *Minuet* by Miss Collett and Miss Giorgi, as 8 May.

ENTERTAINMENT. *Bucks Have At Ye All* by J. Palmer.

COMMENT. Benefit for J. Palmer, Kear, Keen. House charges £66 12s. 6d. [Deficit to actors £36 12s.] Paid Shaw 7 nights in *Cymon* £3 13s. 6d. (Treasurer's Book). Receipts: £30 6d. (Treasurer's Book).

THE CONSCIOUS LOVERS. As 9 Dec. 1766, but Tom – Woodward, 1st time; Humphrey – Perry; Daniel – Weller. Also HARLEQUIN DR FAUSTUS. As 9 May, but Harlequin – Lewes. CG

DANCING. IV: *The Wapping Landlady* and *Double Hornpipe*, as 27 April.

COMMENT. Benefit for Weller, Murden, Lewes. Afterpiece for 52nd and last time this season. Tickets deliver'd for Friday the 15th will be taken. Tickets sold at the Door will not be admitted. Charges £65 10s. [Deficit to each beneficiary £1 14s. 4d., covered by income from tickets. Weller £41 14s. (Box 7; Pit 145; Gallery 182); Murden £41 12s. (Box 31; Pit 111; Gallery 172); Lewes £61 10s. (Box 45; Pit 239; Gallery 144).] Paid the Duke of Bedford half year's ground rent due Lady Day last for the theatre £41 13s. 4d. (£50 minus half year's Land Tax £8 6s. 8d.). Paid Duke of Bedford half year's ground rent for the New Building adjoining the theatre £12 10s. (£15 minus half year's Land Tax £2 10s.). (Account Book). Receipts: £60 1s. (Account Book).

At 5 went to Covent Garden to see *Conscious Lovers* &c. . . . Got a bad place in the First Gallery . . . Lewis did Harlequin, but not so well as Woodward; and Miss D. Twist did ye Miller's Bride, Miss Wilford's Character. Mrs Mahon does the jealous fellow's wife (Neville MS Diary).