

- COMMENT. Portia by Mrs Siddons being her first appearance upon this Stage a good figure rather handsome—wants Spirit and ease her Voice a little course very well receiv'd (Hopkins Diary). Paid Mr Wrioughten on note £100; Mr Garrick 2 nights for *Bon Ton* and *Little Gipsy*, £238. Receipts: £197 (Treasurer's Book). Books of the Songs and Chorusses of the Afterpiece to be had at the Theatre. [This note appeared on all subsequent bills advertising the *Jubilee* this season.]
- The most accomplished actress can display little other abilities in this part [Portia] than a correct elocution, and a knowledge of the author. The lady of last night being thus circumstanced [her first appearance] it is impossible to pronounce what the nature or extent of her powers may enable her to execute when placed in a situation that calls them forth. But from the specimen she gave there is not room to expect anything beyond mediocrity. Her figure and face, although agreeable, have nothing striking, her voice (that requisite of all public speakers) is far from being favourable to her progress as an actress. It is feared she possess a monotone not to be got rid of; there is also vulgarity in her tones, ill calculated to sustain that line in a theatre she has at first been held forth in; but as these observations are formed when the lady laboured under the disadvantages of a first attempt in the metropolis, her future efforts may perhaps entirely remove them (*Middlesex Journal*, 30 Dec. Quoted in Hampden, *Journal*).
- HAMLET (as written by Shakespeare). Hamlet – Sheridan; King – Clarke; Ghost – Aickin; Horatio – Hull; Laertes – Wroughton; Ostrick – Booth; Polonius – Quick; Gravediggers – Dunstall and Jones; Ophelia – Mrs Mattocks; Queen – Mrs Hunter. Also PROMETHEUS. As 26 Dec., but Rayner replaces Lee Lewes. CG
- THE MOURNING BRIDE. As 21 Nov. Also THE JUBILEE. As 27 Dec. Saturday 30
COMMENT. Paid 5 days salary list £525 1s. 3d.; Supernumeraries for the *Jubilee* DL
£71 7s.; Ditto for the *Jubilee* this night £14 8s.; Tallow Chandler's 4th bill £50 13s. 1d. (Treasurer's Book). [N.B. at a rate of 2s. 6d. for walking in a pageant the *Jubilee* would seem to have required 115 supernumeraries this evening.] Receipts: £194 4s. 6d. (Treasurer's Book).
- THE WONDER. As 20 Oct. Also PROMETHEUS. As 29 Dec. CG
- DIDONE. As 7 Nov., but Sestini omitted. King's
DANCING. As 28 Nov.

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- MACBETH. As 7 Dec. 1775. Also THE JUBILEE. As 27 Dec. 1775. Monday 1
COMMENT. Mainpiece: By Particular Desire. The Comedy of *Old City Manners* DL
oblig'd to be deferr'd. On 31 Dec. (Sunday) died Th. Weston of Drury Lane Theatre (Winston MS 11). [See *Memoirs of Thomas Weston that Celebrated Comedian* (London, 1776, 59 pp). This year appeared *A Serious Disuasion from Frequenting the Playhouse*, by Jacob Orton (22 pp. pub. in Shrewsbury). His text is taken from Bulstrode's charge to the Grand Jury of Middlesex, 21 April 1718. "One Playhouse ruin'd more souls than fifty churches are able to save."] Paid Mr Grist on acct per Mr D. G. £20; Three extra trumpets 6 nights £6 15s. Supernumeraries for the *Jubilee* continued to cost 14s. 10d. during its run. Receipts: £219 12s. 6d. (Treasurer's Book).
- KING RICHARD III. Richard – Sheridan; King Henry – Clarke; Richmond – Clinch; Buckingham – Hull; Stanley – Fearon; Tressel – Young; Prince Edward – Miss Besford; Duke of York – Mas. Jones; Norfolk – Booth; Lieut. – L'Estrange; Duchess of York – Mrs Booth; Lady Ann – Miss Macklin; Queen – Mrs Hunter, first time. Also PROMETHEUS. As 29 Dec. 1775. CG