

- Wednesday 27* **THE LORD OF THE MANOR.** Principal Characters by Vernon, Dodd, Parsons, DL
Bannister, Aickin, Baddeley, Du-Bellamy, Suett, R. Palmer, Williams, Holcroft, Chaplin, Griffiths, Phillimore, Nash, Helme, Palmer // Miss Prudom, Mrs Wrighten, Miss Farren. [Cast from text (T. Evans, 1781): Trumore – Vernon; Le Nippe – Dodd; Sir John Contrast – Parsons; Rashly – Bannister; Rental – Aickin; Captain Trepan – Baddeley; Huntsman – Du-Bellamy; Serjeant Crimp – R. Palmer; Corporal Snap – Williams; Contrast – Palmer // Moll Flagon – Mr Suett; Annette – Miss Prudom; Peggy – Mrs Wrighten; Sophia – Miss Farren. Holcroft, Chaplin, Griffiths, Phillimore, Nash, Helme are unassigned.] Also **THE ELOPEMENT.** As 30 Oct.
COMMENT. Mainpiece [1st time; CO 3, by John Burgoyne, based on *SILVAIN*, by Jean François Marmontel]: With entirely new Music [by William Jackson], Scenes, Dresses, and Decorations. The Scenery designed by De Louthembourg, and executed under his direction. *Public Advertiser*, 3 Apr. 1781: This Day is published **THE LORD OF THE MANOR** (price not listed). Receipts: £226 19s. (216/15; 9/16; 0/8).
- CG** **KING LEAR.** King Lear – Henderson; Gloster – Hull; Bastard – Aickin; Kent – Clarke; Albany – L'Estrange; Cornwall – Thompson; Burgundy – Robson; Physician – Baker; Gentleman Usher – Berry; Edgar – Lewis // Goneril – Miss Platt; Regan – Miss Ambrose; Arante – Miss Stuart; Cordelia – Miss Younge. Also **ST. PATRICK'S DAY.** As 22 Nov., but Doctor Rosy – Wewitzer.
COMMENT. Receipts: £171 19s. (170/17; 1/2).
- Thursday 28* **THE LORD OF THE MANOR.** As 27 Dec. Also **FORTUNATUS.** As 4 Nov. DL
COMMENT. Receipts: £171 (151/4; 19/12; 0/4).
- CG** **THE DUENNA.** As 18 Nov., but *The Duenna* – Mrs Pitt. Also **THE DEAF LOVER.** As 18 Sept., but Booth in place of Whitfield; Miss Morris (1st time) in place of Mrs Wilson. *Prologue* spoken by Lee Lewes.
DANCING. As 18 Oct.
COMMENT. By Command of Their Majesties. [Mainpiece in place of **THE SUSPICIOUS HUSBAND**; afterpiece of **HARLEQUIN FREE-MASON**, both announced on playbill of 27 Dec. Afterpiece: *Prologue* by Frederick Pilon.] Receipts: £253 3s. 6d. (251/2/0; 2/1/6).
- Friday 29* **THE LORD OF THE MANOR.** As 27 Dec. Also **THE CRITIC.** As 21 Dec. DL
COMMENT. Benefit for the Author of the Music [of mainpiece]. Receipts: £147 10s. (118/0; 29/0; 0/10; tickets: none listed) (charge: £105).
- CG** **THE SUSPICIOUS HUSBAND.** As 6 Oct., but *Strictland* (1st time) – Thompson; Tester – Wewitzer // *Jacintha* – Mrs Lewis; omitted: *Buckle*, *Simon*. Also **HARLEQUIN FREE-MASON.** *Cast not listed.* [Larpent MS 541, and *Universal Magazine*, Supp. 1780, pp. 367–68 list the parts: *Hiram Abbif*, *Master Mason*, *Bacchanal*, *Skaters*, *Masons*, *Lawyers*, *Harlequin*, *Jew* // *Colombine*, *Fish Women*, *Virgins*. *Songs* (G. Kearsley, 1781) lists no parts. *Morning Herald*, 30 Dec. assigns *Dutch Lover* – Wewitzer; but no others. For *Reinhold* see 1 Jan. 1781.]
COMMENT. Afterpiece [1st time; P 2 (?), by Charles Dibdin and James Messink; synopsis of plot in *London Chronicle*, 30 Dec.]: To conclude with a *Procession* of the principal Grand Masters, from the *Creation* to the present Century, dressed in the Habits of their respective Ages and Countries. With new Music [by Charles Dibdin], Scenes, Dresses, Pageants, and Decorations. The paintings executed by Richards, Carver, Hodgins, and assistants. Books of the *Songs*, with an *Explanation* of the Pageants, to be had at the Theatre. Nothing under full Price will be taken.

- “To give magnificence a meaning, and unite antiquarian knowledge with polite entertainment, was a task hitherto unattempted by the contrivers of our Pantomime exhibitions. Such praise, however, the acting manager of Covent Garden theatre may justly claim, on the score of *Harlequin Free-Mason*, which is now representing before greater crowds than perhaps were ever attracted by *Perseus and Andromeda* [in 1730], the *Rape of Proserpine* [in 1727], or the celebrated *Sorcerer* [i.e. *The Magician*, in 1721]. The beauty of the first scene, in which a setting sun is admirably contrived, the Dutch winter piece, with numberless skate[r]s moving in the most natural attitudes, and, above all, the imperfect building, finished in a moment at the command of Harlequin, can be exceeded only by the pomp of the historic procession which closes the whole, and offers the richest and most intelligent spectacle that ever yet appeared on an English stage” (*Gentleman’s Magazine*, Feb. 1781, pp. 58–59, which also prints a detailed description of the pageant).
- Account-Book, 1 Feb.: Paid Dibdin for music, &c. of HARLEQUIN FREE-MASON £70. Receipts: £236 2s. (230/3; 5/19).
- THE LORD OF THE MANOR. As 27 Dec. Also QUEEN MAB. As 30 Sept. *Friday 29*
DANCING. In afterpiece, by Blurton, &c. CG
COMMENT. Receipts: £135 2s. 6d. (107/12/0; 27/8/0; 0/2/6). DL
- MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. As 19 Oct. Also HARLEQUIN FREE-MASON. As 29 Dec. CG
DANCING. *Masquerade Dance*, as 19 Oct.
COMMENT. Receipts: £212 3s. (207/8; 4/15).
- RINALDO. As 23 Dec. King’s
DANCING. As 19 Dec. throughout.

January 1781

- THE LORD OF THE MANOR. As 27 Dec. 1780. Also THE JUBILEE. As 12 Dec. 1780. *Monday 1*
COMMENT. Receipts: £150 4s. (124/19/0; 25/2/6; 0/2/6). DL
- HAMLET. As 26 Oct. 1780, but King – Fearon // Queen (1st time) – Mrs Green; Ophelia – Mrs Mattocks. Also HARLEQUIN FREE-MASON. As 29 Dec. 1780, but “On account of Reinhold’s Hoarseness Cubitt undertook his character at a short notice” (*Public Advertiser*, 2 Jan.). Presumably Reinhold resumed his part on or about 13 Jan. CG
COMMENT. [In mainpiece Fearon is assigned to both the King and Marcellus. Marcellus was probably acted by Booth, as on 19 Mar.] Receipts: £235 19s. (234/10; 1/9).
- ZARA. As 15 Dec. 1780, but Orasmin – Phillimore. Also THE LYAR. As 18 Nov. 1780. *Tuesday 2*
DANCING. End of mainpiece *The Countryman Deceiv’d* by Sg and Sga Zuchelli, Henry, Sga Crespi, Delpini. DL
COMMENT. [On this night Sg and Sga Zuchelli, Henry and Sga Crespi also danced in 3 ballets at King’s. A probable explanation is that the play at DL began three-quarters of an hour earlier than did the opera.] Receipts: £103 4s. (69/16; 31/18; 1/10).