

Saturday 5
CG

HOOLY AND FAIRLY. As 28 Apr. Also THE BEAUX STRATAGEM. As 28 Dec. 1797, but Aimwell - Pope; Scrub - Munden. Also OSCAR AND MALVINA. As 27 Mar., but Malvina - Mlle St. Amand.

DANCING. 1st piece to conclude with a *Higbland Reel*, as 28 Apr.

SINGING. In 1st piece as 2nd piece, 28 Apr., but omitted: *The Little Farthing Rusblight*; End of Act II of 2nd piece *Old Towler*; End of 2nd piece *Admiral Benbow*, both by Incedon.

MUSIC. In 3rd piece The Union Pipes by Murphy.

COMMENT. Benefit for the Fund, established for the Relief of those Performers who, through Infirmary, shall be obliged to retire from the Stage.

State of the Theatrical Fund, instituted at Covent Garden in the year 1765, and confirmed by Act of Parliament, 1776.

This Institution, calculated to provide for, and relieve aged and infirm Performers and their Families, has not been successful enough during the course of 33 years, to acquire any *particular* Patronage, but has been raised and supported (some few private Donations and Bequests excepted) merely through the liberal Contributions of its Members.

Several aged Persons are now, and have been for many years, economically maintained by it, although the Interest arising from the general Sum already amassed is not equal to one half of the Claims of its Annuitants. The other Portion is entirely supplied from the weekly Contributions of the Performers.

Applications to the Public in behalf of this salutary Institution have rarely been made, and sometimes very ineffectually.

On these Considerations therefore the Lovers of Dramatic Entertainments are respectfully addressed for their Encouragement at This Evening's Performance. (See Genest, VII, 365-66.)

Receipts: £131 7s. (122/13; 1/16; tickets: 6/18).

King's

ELFRIDA. As 26 Apr.

DANCING. As 6 Mar. throughout.

Monday 7
DL

HANNAH HEWIT; or, The Female Crusoe. Walmsley (with *Captain Wattle and Miss Roe*; *The Country Club*; *The Advantage of Topping*) - Bannister Jun.; Captain Higgins (with *The Sailor's Journal*; *Lovely Nan*) - Dignum; Buntline (with *Toll de Roll*) - Suett; Cudgo (with *Kickaraboo*) - Wathen; Binns - Trueman; Hewit - Holland // Hannah Hewit (with *The Complaint*; *Virtue*) - Miss De Camp; Anna (with *True Glory*) - Miss Leak; Mrs Binns - Miss Heard. Also THE INCONSTANT. Old Mirable - Aickin; Young Mirable - Wroughton; Captain Duretete (1st time) - Bannister Jun.; Petit - R. Palmer // Oriana - Mrs Goodall; Lamorce - Miss Tidswell; Bizarre (1st time) - Mrs Jordan. Also THE SON-IN-LAW. Cranky - Suett; Vinegar - Aickin; Bouquet - Dignum; Bowkit - Bannister Jun.; Arionelli - Miss De Camp; Idle - R. Palmer; Orator Mum - Wewitzer // Cecilia - Miss Leak. SINGING. End of Act I of 1st piece *The Sailor's Consolation* made into a Song and Chorus [*singers not listed*].

COMMENT. Benefit for Bannister Jun. 1st piece [1st time; MF2. MS: Larpent 1210; not published]: Written by [Charles] Dibdin, Founded on his Popular Novel under that Title, and enriched with a Selection of his most recent and favourite Songs. To conclude with a new Finale by Dibdin. The Overture by Dibdin. "[It is a] wretched inanity; without interest, without humour, without character, original only in its dullness and unmatchable absurdity" (*Monthly Mirror*, May 1798, p. 306). 2nd piece: Compressed into Three Acts. 3rd piece: By permission of the Proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Hay-Market. *Morning Herald*, 18 Apr.: Tickets to be had of Bannister Jun., No. 65, Gower-street, Bedford-square. Receipts: £511 13s. 6d. (251/7/6; 68/7/0; 1/13/0; tickets: 190/6/0) (charge: £212 19s.).

- ROMEO AND JULIET. As 2 Nov. 1797, but Peter – Farley // Juliet – Mrs Pope [i.e. formerly Mrs Spencer]; added: Apothecary – Simmons. Also CYMON. Cymon – Incedon; Linco – Simmons; Merlin – Clarke; Shepherds – Abbot, Lee; Dorus – Munden // Fatima – Mrs Martyr; Urganda – Mrs Litchfield; Dorcas – Mrs Davenport; Shepherdesses – Mrs Follett, Mrs Watts; Sylvia – Mrs Mountain. SINGING. As 2 Nov. 1797. Monday 7
CG
- COMMENT. [Mainpiece in place of ENGLAND PRESERV'D; afterpiece of A DAY IN [recte AT] ROME and RAYMOND AND AGNES, all advertised on playbill of 5 May.] Receipts: £100 17s. (98/0; 2/17).
- THE STRANGER. As 26 Mar., but Miss Biggs in place of Mrs Goodall. Also THE PANNEL. As 14 Apr. Tuesday 8
DL
- COMMENT. [In mainpiece the playbill retains Mrs Goodall, but she “was taken suddenly ill yesterday, in consequence of which the part of the Countess was performed by Miss Biggs, at a very short notice, who acquitted herself with considerable ability” (*Morning Herald*, 9 May).] Receipts: £202 14s. 6d. (162/19/0; 38/15/6; 1/0/0).
- THE HEIR AT LAW. As 24 Apr., but Daniel Dowlas – Waddy. Also THE QUARTER DECK; or, Half an Hour's Festivity. In which *The New Mariners* [singers not listed]; *The Mid Watch* by Incedon; *Queen Bess*; or, *The Spanish Armada* by Johnstone; *Great Britain still her Charter boasts* by Incedon, Fawcett, Johnstone, Linton, Street, Gray, &c. Also BOTHERATION; or, A Ten Years Blunder. Jack Hopeful – read by Knight; Dr Wisepate – Powel; Varnish – Davenport; Robert – Simmons; Theddy O'Blarney – Johnstone // Lady Apes – Mrs Davenport; Mrs Varnish – Mrs Platt; Rose – Mrs Gibbs. CG
- DANCING. In 2nd piece a *Hornpipe* in Character by Blurton. SINGING. In the course of the Entertainment *Old Towler* and *Black Ey'd Susan*, both by Incedon; Incidental to 3rd piece *Mr O'Blarney's Description of London* (Including his Remarks on St. James's, St. Giles's, St. Paul's, Debating Clubs, Squares, Gardens, The Monument, Wigs and Crops, Boarding Schools, Inns, Fields, Soldiers, Sailors, and Volunteers), in Character by Johnstone.
- COMMENT. Benefit for Johnstone. 2nd piece [1st time; M.INT1]. 3rd piece [1st time; F2, by Walley Chamberlain Oulton. In it the playbill assigns Jack Hopeful to Fawcett, but text (George Cawthorn, 1798) has note: The part of Jack Hopeful, intended for Mr Fawcett, was, on account of that gentleman's severe indisposition, obligingly read by Mr Knight, who afterwards performed it (see 17 May)]. *Times*, 20 Apr.: Tickets to be had of Johnstone, No. 19, Piazza, Covent-garden. Receipts: £440 13s. (192/13/0; 4/0/6; tickets: 243/19/6).
- ELFRIDA. *Cast not listed*, but see 26 Apr. King's
- DANCING. End of Act I *Peggy's Love*, as 28 Apr.; End of Opera *Constante et Alcidonis*, as 6 Feb.
- THE COUNTRY GIRL. As 26 Sept. 1797, but Alithea – Miss Heard; Lucy – Miss Mellon; omitted: Countryman, William, Servants. Also BLUE-BEARD. As 24 Apr., but omitted: 4th and 5th Spahis, Janizaries, Peasants, Slaves. Wednesday 9
DL
- DANCING. End of Act II of mainpiece the Grand Anacreontic Ballet, *Bacchus et Ariadne*. Bacchus – Laborie; Ariadne – Mme Lombard Laborie; Theseus – St. Pierre; Phedra – Miss D'Egville; Silenus – Blake; Cupid – Master Menage; Hymen – Miss Denys; Chief Persons of the Train of Bacchus, representing Divinities of Olympus – Didelot, Mme Hilligsberg, Miss J. Hilligsberg; Deities of the Olympus, with a Grand Procession of Bacchanals, Bacchantes, Nymphs, Satyrs, Fauns, &c. – The whole Corps de Ballet from the Opera House. In the course of the Evening the celebrated *Pas de Quatre* from *Panurge* by Didelot, Laborie, Mme Laborie, Mme Hilligsberg.