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no.12 [Journal 9]

August 9, 1803-May 14, 1804.

[9. August. 1803] Newcastle

... Much ado about Nothing ... miserably acted except Charles Kemble in Benedick who acted with much animation tho' but little judgement. Mrs. Kemble wants spirits for Beatrice -- in many parts of it she was excellent, in others flat. To shew that balance of love and reason thro' the counterfeit of "all mirth and no matter" requires the greater facility and felicity of Mrs. Siddons or Mrs. Jordan, tho' for pert and witty repartie there is liveliness enough in Mrs. Kemble's Beatrice.

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[10. August. 1803]

... The play was Douglas -- house very thin. Douglas was very well acted by C. Kemble but did not produce much effect from the unequal & stange manner in which Lady Randolph was supported by Madame de Sumbel: she is certainly out of her reason at times. -- Old Norval was well acted by Kemble -- Glenalvon very bad by Liston -- they were all very imperfect except the Kembles.

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The farce was the Review, of which, tho' in itself an excellent one, nothing is made here. Liston is very well in John Lump -- Noble very indifferent in the Irishman -- the rest all bad.

IX, 6

[12. August. 1803]

... Lover's Vows -- a very indifferent house indeed, but certainly the best entertainments we have yet had: the play was on the whole

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well acted: -- and Charles Kemble & Mrs. Kemble were delightful in Frederick & Agatha -- nothing could be more capital than the

the former in the scene with his father in the 4th act -- it was acted with much feeling & delicacy by Mr. Kemble. Liston was very good in the Baron. Miss Kemble looked the character of Amelia well, & tho' there is a want of animation in many parts, she was very pleasing on the whole. Lee was much better in Count Cassel than I ever saw him; Mara was the worst of all in Anhalt -- but on the whole it went off admirably; both Charles & Mrs. Kemble act with so much feeling, that it cannot fail to produce a charming effect.

The farce was the Devil to Pay, with which I was highly amused, as I have not seen it for many years & Mrs. Kemble was charmingly arch & natural in Nell, which

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is, I think, next to Cowslip we best part in farces: her naiveté & natural astonishment at the change was delightful; Noble in Jobson was much better than common; as it is a coarse vulgar character it suits his style of acting. Mara in Sir John, & Mrs. Noble in Lady Loverule were decent, indeed their parts are very easy. ... certainly it was far superior to any other night, as the parts were well cast & exactly suited both to Charles & Mrs. Kemble, & also to the rest of the set.

[30. August. 1803]

Kelso

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Very fine day. Got a letter from the Duke of Northumberland, very civil & well written, stating that from the representations of Mr. Taylor &c., he had taken the liberty of sending up my name ... as Captain of an Infantry troop of the Percy Tenantry: in doing this, he hopes he had not ventured too far &c. I wrote an answer expressing thanks, and declining the honor, & stating that I had before written to Mr. J. Lamb declining it, with the reasons which induced me to refuse so honorable a

situation -- & again repeated to the Duke those reasons -- which were merely that during the summer I was always here, and that previous to my receiving the Duke's offer, I had engaged to serve in the Volunteers which are to be raised in this county.

Having got quit of that business, my Father & I rode on horseback, with Wilson, to Fleurs & called on the Duke of Roxburghe, who arrived there Saturday last -- we were told he was out, so left our cards. My Father wished to have told him of the Duke of N's offer in order to secure me a company here.

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[27. September. 1803]

Sir George [Douglas] just came from Jedburgh when I got there -- but was soon ready. ... After Capt. Scott went away, Sir George & I had a long consultation about the colunteers. I am to select from those who have offered their services in 7 parishes, 120 -- which is one company. The parishes are Ednam, Stichel, Smailholm, Roxburgh, Makerston, Lessuden, & Maxton: -- & tomorrow I shall meet Ballantyne & Bruce about it. -- Got a letter (when I returned from Sir George D's at nine o'clock) from Sir John Riddel with a list of parishes & what I am to do, which will be very useful.

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[2. October. 1803]

After breakfast rode to Kelso -- went to chapel -- & came back with my Father. Mr. C. Waldie, Miss Christy & John Waldie dined & drank tea here. Spent the day as usual. I am now reading Delphine, which in France was burnt by order of the Chief Consul, but as yet I don't see any thing in it very flagitious -- on the contrary, tho' certainly of an immoral

tendency, it is a most interesting story, & the chief characters are admirably drawn.

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[8. October. 1803]

... The Constable came here this morning & I sent round with the notices for Stichel parish. Read a great deal of Delphine which grows more & more interesting, tho' certainly it is far from being favorable to the real interests of virtue.

In the after noon, at 1/2 past 4, I went with my Father in the chaise to Fleurs where I set him down & proceeded thro' the Duke's park to the Edinburgh road to Smailholm -- where I found Sir John Riddel just arrived & Col. Hunter arrived soon after me -- we met th Volunteers of Smailholm & Makerston -- the former behaved uncommon well & enrolled & took the oath with great cheerfulness -- while the latter were insolent & complained of the partiality

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of the selection. This I dare say was all owing to the ridiculous act Sir Henry has made about it -- we only got 5 from the parish of Makerston - & 12 from Smailholm I returned to Fleurs ... The Duke was very polite & civil ... Sir Henry Macdougall (who did not much relish my account of the behaviour of the Makerston people)... Sir John Scott (who seems stupid & good natured). We played at whist & supped -- & did not get home till one o'clock.

[9. October. 1803]

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Did not go to church. Rode to Ednam & ordered a supper for the volunteers on Tuesday evening there -- & called on Mr. A. Robertson who said he would take the trouble of acquainting those in my list of the supper. Rode to Kelso -- & sat an hour with A. Ballantyne who came back yesterday from Edinburgh. Walked to the new house -- which gets on well. Miss Christy

Chatto, Nancy & John came from Mainhouse & dined -- but soon went away, except John who staid till near 9 -- he goes to Newcastle to morrow; also we had at dinner Mr. C. Waldie & Miss C. Waldie, & Dr. Douglas, Miss Mary & Miss Ann Douglas. The day went off well -- in the evening read Delphine & sung &c. -- Delphine grows more & more interesting, yet still I think it not natural, & certainly not moral, for tho' she seems to possess sufficient cleverness, the heroine has been granted too little prudence to balance her caprice.

Got a card from the Duke which I answered -- only about the enrollments &c.

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[19. November. 1803]

Rode to Kelso. Saw Ballantyne, & fixed military matters. Walked to New House -- which is now slated on the East side. In the Evg. Jonathan & I went in to the play ... it was very full. Johnstone's Long Room makes a decent Theatre. Stephen Kemble is here for six nights as a great treat to the Kelsonians. He has acted Falstaff, Richard, Penruddock, & tonight Macbeth. He looked better than usual, & spoke well -- during the 2 first acts, & conceived the character well -- but ranted & spoke thro' his nose towards the end -- however he gave great satisfaction & appeared like Roscius among the miserable set who enacted the other parts, all of whom, except Mrs. O'Keefe, are the worst I ever saw. She acted Lady Macbeth extremely well throughout, particularly the sleeping scene, & the assassination -- but she is thin, old, & ugly, & naturally an awkward figure, tho' well versed in stage effect.

She appeared quite like a "Siddons," & Stephen like a "John Kemble" amongst the rest of the vile set who are managed by a Mr. Graham & a Mr. Stanfield -- the former is said to be a decent actor -- but we did not see him -- the latter is very bad -- his wife, Mrs. Stanfield, is pretty but awkward, silly, and affected without any idea of acting. The rest are execrable. The farce was No Song no Supper -- if their supper depended on their singing it would be small indeed, but such discordant strains I never heard before.

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[30. November. 1869]

Got up a little past 7. Went to the Drill of my Kelso Squad. Sir John was there. -- Came back at 9 to Mr. Waldie's to breakfast. Wrote &c. -- at Ballantyne's. Took over my Music there -- the 2 vols. I have left yet. I sung & he played accompaniments on violin for an hour & a half. -- Dined with Mr. Waldie, John & Miss Mary at 1/2 pas one -- directly after rode to Newton Lee's Drill & met Sir John R., Ballantyne & Bruce. We drilled till 4 -- selected the Men who are to be first at Kelso, and rode home. Drank tea at Mr. Waldie's -- and then went to the play with John & Miss Mary. The play was by desire

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of the Free Masons of Kelso, They all went with Aprons on in procession to the Theatre-- & sat apart from the rest. There were above 40 -- They looked well. Several Masonic Songs were sung, and the Evening concluded with God save the King in full chorus by the actors & audience. -- The play was the Wonder a woman keeps a secret, & was much better acted than Macbeth. It is so busy & amusing, that if tolerably

done it can't fail to please. None of the characters, except Gibby, by Charteris, who is a Scotchman & performed it admirably well, were well supported -- but Mrs. O'Keefe & Graham in Violante & Felix were very well -- Stanfield in Lissardo -- Penn in Britton -- Mrs. Stanfield in Isabella, Mrs. Jackson in Flora, Mrs. Davis in Iris were decent, & all went thro' their parts so as to make it amusing, entertaining, & interesting, & not so ridiculous as their attempt at Macbeth. The old Men were very bad.

We had a curious but entertaining Dance called the Fracas Dance by Penn & Davies -- the latter

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as an old woman: it was very laughable. -- The Farce was the Review -- Mrs. Penn & Mrs. Stanfield looked well, especially the latter, in Rachel & Lucy, but acted very ill. Nothing could be worse than Charteris in Caleb Quotem. He was the best in the play & the worst in the farce. He had none of the fun, rapidity, & whimsicality of Fawcett -- Stanfield was middling in Loony -- Davies very bad in John Lump: -- it is laughable however & went off very well: -- upon the whole I was well entertained & liked it much better than I expected. The House was full -- but not too crowded. The play began at 1/2 past 5 -- & was over at 1/2 past nine, as the Masons left the Playhouse in procession again, & afterwards had a Supper at Yale's where I suppose they all got drunk.

[31. December. 1803]

... Went to C. Waldie's -- where there was a party. He usually celebrates the last day of each year Thus happily ended & began the old & new year. Mr. Waldie & his ancestors have for 50 years kept up the custom.

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[1. January. 1804]

... Having been much fatigued yesterday, & wakening at eight very bad of my old pain in my side, I did not get up till 1/2 past nine. This seems a melancholy commutation to the year, as I feel weak & ill, & yet must exert myself now more than I ever did before, & public affairs have not the best appearance; however there are many things yet to happen which may be beneficial -- & I hope to make some amendment in my own conduct, which is far from being what it should, but I hope time & endeavour will correct my faults. I am determined to endeavour to do what appears to myself to be my duty, & to consider coolly what my duty is before I take any important step.

[12. January. 1804] Newcastle

At one o'clock to day there was a Meeting of the Proprietors of the Theatre; there were above 40. I was one of the Committee -- several new Resolutions were read -- Sir Mathew Ridley first, & he being obliged to go,

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Mr. Alderman Forster were in the chair: -- our party carried that the letting of the Theatre is to be left to the Committee, & that upon no account is there to be plays oftener than thrice a week excepting during the Race, Assize, & Fair weeks, & upon [no] account are the company to perform at any other town till the Theatre at Newcastle is closed for the Season. -- Mr. Clayton spoke very much to the purpose. Dr. Clark made several observations -- also John Cookson & Alderman Forster all on our side -- The rest of the Corporation & Sir Mathews on the other side made a poor figure. We came off victorious, and 15 of us were appointed as a Committee, of which I am one.

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[24. January. 1804]

... Got to Newcastle at 12. Went to the Committee of the Theatre meeting at 1/2 past 12, where were Ald^m Blacket, Pearson, D. Stevenson, M. Atkinson, T. Fenwick, John & Isaac Cookson, J. Lamb, C. Bates, & Loraine. We fixed several things -- & admitted Kemble who is to make a proposal next Tuesday at 1/2 past 12 when we meet again.

Went up street with Isaac Cookson at 3 -- Dined at home -- & in the Evening went to the Play with my Mother, Mr. & Mrs. Lamb, Betsy Chatto, Joe Lamb &c.

The Theatre opens for the Season tonight with She Stoops to Conquer & Of age tomorrow. The play was ill acted but is

is very amusing -- Liston excellent in Tony Lumpkin -- Mrs. Kemble looked well but has not spirit enough for Miss Hardcastle.

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Foote, a new Actor, is very stupid & the most disagreeable voice I have ever heard -- he was Young Marlow. Noble in Hardcastle is tiresome. Mrs. Jones is always the same but has some humor & is useful.--She was Mrs. Hardcastle. -- the rest very bad.

After the play a dance by Mad^e de St. Pierre -- she dances tolerably -- & with ease but not much grace. A Mr. Willis danced very well.

The farce of Of age to morrow: Kiston in the Baron is quite out of his line. Fanny Kemble looked well, acted tolerably, & sung charmingly in Maria. Mrs. Jones, Lady Brumback -- Noble, Piffleberg -- Mara, Hans Molkus -- 2 last very bad. Upon the whole was tolerably amused. Fanny was deservedly encored in "Ah No, my Love, no" -- She sung it & also the Mock Italian Song, with spirit, taste, & expression.

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[25. January. 1804]

... Went to the Play -- Poor House -- about £15. -- Sat with J. Lamb, J. Chatto, Isaac Cookson, T. Fenwick, &c. -- The Will was the play ... Lee in Howard, decent -- Liston in Mandeville, out of his line. Noble very bad in Sir Solomon. Mara very bad in the Tutor -- & Mrs. Jones dull in Mrs. Rigid. Mrs. Kemble in some parts of Albina

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was charming -- but in the gayer parts she has not spirit for it. -- Mr. Saxoni exhibited on the tightrope astonishing performances of various kinds -- he does them with the greatest ease, & very gracefully -- he dances, leaps, sits on a chair with a table, bottle of wine, glasses, pipes &c. He danced

without a pole a long time which is very difficult, & took several very high back & forward leaps & walked down the rope quite into the pit in the middle of which it was fastened. He is a most wonderful performer. After that a dance by Messrs. Willis & Hartland & Mad^e St. Pierre. -- Lock & Key the Farce -- Noble is excellent in so infirm a man as Brummagem -- Mara sung very ill in Cheerly -- Suett stupid in Capt. Vain -- Liston an excellent Ralph -- Mrs. Noble very bad in the Maid -- Fanny looked beautiful in Laura & sung

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well what there was to sing. Some brute in the Gallery hit her breast with some peas thrown at random -- which affected her much & for which every one was extremely sorry. -- I wish it could be discovered who it was that he might be punished.

[30. January. 1804]

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... Much wine was drank -- Mr. Clarke, J. Davidson, & Old Taylor & Dixon Brown got pretty well over: J. Lamb & I went to the play at nine. Saw the rope dancing &c. -- and Poor Vulcan, an entertaining Burletta in which Liston in Vulcan, Fanny K. in Venus or Maudlin, & Mrs. Kemble in Grace the Maid were excellent. The rest of the Gods & Goddesses very bad.

[31. January. 1804]

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After breakfast walked with Trevelyan to Turners where he met his Father ... He hopes to see me at Netherwitton. Walked to the Graham Clarks. Sung with them an hour. Then went to the Theatre, where met Bates, Fenwick, Loraine, D. Stevenson, John Cookson, M. Atkinson, Ald: Blackett & myself. We went all over the Theatre -- & saw what it wanted. Mrs. Kemble was very civil in pointing out different matters. -- Fanny Kemble &c. were rehearsing Robin Hood -- she was singing very well

indeed. We were about an hour in the Theatre & then went over to the Shakespeare [Tavern], where we received Kemble's proposal for the Theatre,

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which was just what he has always given -- and as it did not contain promise of a better company, we rejected it by a unanimous vote, except Mr. Blackett. We then drew up an advertisement to be sent to the different Papers of Newcastle, London, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, York, &c.

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[1. February. 1804]

... It is said to day that the French are off the Coast near Berwick -- General Gray received an Express for some reason or other from the North -- but perhaps it may only be a false alarm.

Went to the Play in the Evening -- where met Morrison, J. Lamb, Hoffmeyer, &c. -- the House was tolerable -- pretty good at 1/2 price -- about £20.

The play was Every one has his fault -- & was tolerably acted. They got thro' it better than I expected. Mrs. Kemble in Lady Elinor, & Miss Benson in Edward were charming. Liston excellent in Harmony. Noble very well in Solus & Mrs. Jones in Miss Spinster. Placid & Mrs. Placid, Chippendale & Mrs. Noble.

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Lindoe especially bad in Lord Norland. Lee in Sir Robert Ramble was very animated & better than I have seen him before. Fanny Kemble was charming in Miss Woodburn, but the great pleasure of the night was the pathetic scenes between Mrs. Kemble & Miss Benson -- which were truly affecting. It is a most delightful play, and would have been tolerably acted had not the part of Capt. Irvine been quite spoiled by Foote, who is a most unpleasant actor.

Mr. Saxoni exhibited his most astonishing tightrope performances.

Robin Hood -- the farce. -- all very bad except Mara, tolerable in Robin, Liston in Little John, & Noble in the Tinker. Fanny Kemble in Clorinda was very spirited, & gave the patriotic sentiments with great effect & applause. She sung the songs delightfully ... particularly the Ho ho ho! & When ruddy Aurora --

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She was encored in the last one -- & gave it again with ringing vigor. I never saw her act better, or sing with more spirit. ...

[2. February. 1804]

No farther expresses having yet arrived, I hope it is a false alarm about the French:

-- which proved to be the case, owing to some Privateer off the Coast.

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[10. February. 1804]

... In the Evening went to Mrs. Lloyd's Rout, as did also my Father, Mother, & Maria -- stupid party as possible -- J. Lamb & I went to the play at nine -- bespoke by the Volunteers -- house as full as it could cram.

We got a standing place, & saw the farce -- The Marriage Promise was over -- Raising the wind was extremely ill acted. Nothing could be worse than Noble in Didler -- Lindoe in Plainway -- Mrs. Lee in Peggy -- &c. Lee in Fainwood was very well, & Liston very well in Sam; also Mrs. Jones in Miss Laurelia -- but all the effect of it depends on Didler, who was quite out -- nothing could be worse -- he was like a harlequin.

[7. February. 1804]

... Meeting at Theatre in order to give Kemble a fair trial, & that there might be better plays in the town, we unanimously offered him the Theatre on the terms of his proposal, with the addition of his paying all taxes & leases usually paid by Tenants. We granted him a lease for 3 years: he promised to make every exertion in his power.

[13. February. 1804]

... Wm. Robson dined with us. He & Jonathan & I went to the play. Tolerable house -- about 40 -- full at 1/2 price. Met J. Chatto Isabella, the play. Mrs. Kemble was exceptionally good: charming in many parts, and got thro' the most difficult impassioned scenes with effective strength & dignity. I never saw her to greater advantage. Biron, Foote -- Villeroy, Lee -- Carlos, Liston -- & Baldwin, Lindoe -- very ill acted except by Mrs. Kemble & yet it went off extremely well.

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A ballet followed by the dancers. The Spoiled Child -- Old Pickle, Kelly -- Tug, Noble -- John, Liston -- Miss Pickle, Mrs. Jones -- & Little Pickle, Miss A. De Camp -- Maria, Miss Benson -- very well acted indeed. Miss D. C. is very little but very spirited & like her sister -- she went thro' it admirably -- nothing could be better -- it was received with unbounded applause. Upon the whole, I have not been so much pleased with any play & farce I have yet seen as with Isabella & The Spoiled Child.

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[17. February. 1804]

...In the Evg. went to the play ... J. Lamb & I came away long before the end.... The play was Othello -- wretchedly acted -- Othello, Foote -- he roared & ranted dreadfully; he portrays passion as if it were a fit of cramps -- Iago, Mara -- too stupid for cunning malevolence -- Roderigo, Noble -- Cassio, Lee -- Desdemona, Miss A. De Camp -- very well done -- she is too little, but possesses more pathetic powers than I had supposed. Mrs. Jones decent in Emilia. -- very bad on the whole.

[29. February. 1804]

... J. Lamb & I went to the play & met many people -- full house -- sat with Mayoress Party in stage box, & handed out them & Miss Abbs. By desire of the armed association: Love makes a Man ... The play was just over when we arrived, Elvira ordering Clodio taken away as murderer, Don Lewis begging on his knees for reprieve, then Don Duart throwing off his disguise. Mr. Kemble spoke a cento from Shakespeare -- very animating. The Liar, the farce -- Lee tolerably good in Young Wilding -- Miss Kemble looked well & acted with elegance in Liz Grantham. Miss Godfrey is a stupid part for Miss De Camp. The Rest bad as usual.

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[6. March. 1804]

... a little after 8, Col. Eliot & I shipped off to the Concert -- overture just concluding -- it was never crowded but well attended -- & grew thicker, as the routs dispersed. Mrs. Ashe sung "angels ever bright" delightfully and after that "Sweet Echo." Ashe's flute played the Echo out of the room; tho' a charming piece of music, I don't like it so well as "Sweet Bird."

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Mrs. Ashe sung "Le costante per te moro," an Italian Song by Amarosa, very well indeed -- & a balad of "My Love to War is going." Ashe played his flute Concerto -- with his usual delicacy of execution. Upon the whole much pleased -- tho' I think I have heard her sing better. She is within a month of being brought to bed which makes a difference, I dare say, in her singing. I spoke to them both between the acts and also to numerous others. Little Hawks, the Blind boy, played after the compnay went away & only 30 or 40 were left.

[21. March. 1804]

... the chaise called for Maria with my Aunt Chatto, Mrs. Lamb & Betsy -- we went to the play. Very full house -- £90--- or £100. For Fanny Kemble's benefit. The Wife of 2 husbands -- well acted play, & some good scenes in it. Fanny in Eugenia sung 2 songs charmingly indeed, and performed very well -- there is little acting in her part, but the Duets & Trios are very pretty -- Miss A. De Camp in Theodore, excellent -- Mrs. Kemble charming in the Countess Belfior -- & all the other characters well acted. Foote I never saw so well as in Old Maurice. Mara in Montenero, Lindoe in Fritz, Liston in Carronade, Noble in Armagh, Lee in Count Belfior &c. -- Fanny K. sung "Ah no, my Love, no" & Liston a Comic Song.

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The Gentle Shepherd was the farce. They can't speak Scotch & the music is dull & stupid, except the Duet of the "Yellow haired laddie" -- but Fanny in Peggy, Mrs. Kemble in Jenny, Liston in Bauldy, Miss De Camp in Patie, were well -- but it is very flat in representation.

The Music in The Wife of 2 husbands is middling -- all the lively parts very bad -- some pleasant harmony, & 2 very good songs in Eugenia's part.

[4. April. 1804]

... Went to a Meeting of the Theatre -- & spoke up for letting it to Kinlock & Mackintosh -- but Bates & I were overruled by Tom Hopper, J. Lamb, Alderman Blackett, & Wm Atkinson.

In the evening my Father, Mother, Maria, Betsy Chatto, John Chatto, Uncle Chatto, Mr. & Mrs. Lamb & Joe, were at the play -- Mrs. Kemble's benefit.-- The Soldier's Daughter -- uncommonly well acted & went off with great eclat -- it is a most amusing play & has some excellent scenes -- the plot & characters are not new -- but the dialogue is capital. -- Kemble was quite at home in the Governor -- Mrs. Kemble looked most charming in the Widow & acted admirably well. Mara very well in Ferret. Foote in Malfort was also very well. Lindoe had little to do in Old Malfort -- he is very stupid. Lee in Capt. Woodley was as good as possible -- & Liston in Frank Heartall, tho' not

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quite in his line, was excellent -- indeed he always pleases. Noble made much of the queer character of Timothy Quaint. Miss A. De Camp is an excellent chambermaid: I only regretted the part of Susan was so short. Mrs. Stanley in Mrs. Malfort -- Mrs. Stanley is very elegant -- most beautiful sideface; she has a fine voice but the tone of it is very tragic -- I should think in tragedy she would be excellent. She was very elegant but not very touching in Mrs. Malfort. Upon the whole the play was extremely well done.

The Farce was My Grandmother -- Fanny Kemble in Florella looked, sung, & acted charmingly. Mara stupid in Woodly. Noble a very good Dicky Gossip -- & Liston a very good Vapour -- Kelly in Sir Mathew & Miss A. De Camp in Charlotte have not much to do -- very full house -- above £100. Upon the whole highly amused.

[11. April. 1804]

Wakened at 4 o'clock -- very ill of old pain in side -- dreadfully sick -- lay in bed till past 10 vomiting -- Got up & went down stairs -- threw up my breakfast -- laid quiet all day, but side very bad -- went with my Mother & Maria in the chaise to the play as it was bespoke by the Proprietors -- indifferent house -- not above 50.

The play was Inkle & Yarico, a favorite among Colman's musical plays, but the representation was uneven -- Mara stupid in Inkle, Noble very good in Trudge, Kelly stupid in Medium & Lee in Campley, Kemble excellent in Sir Christopher -- Mrs. Kemble most charming indeed in Yarico. Fanny did Wowki extremely well, as did Miss De Camp Patly -- but Miss Benson dull in Narcissa. Upon the whole it went off extremely well & the Midnight hour which followed was highly laughable -- General, Noble -- Nicholas, Liston -- Sebastian, Mara -- Ambrose, Bland -- Mathias, Kelly -- Marquis, Lee -- Julia, Mrs. Noble -- Cicely, Mrs. Jones -- & Flora, Mrs. Kemble -- She was truly enchanting. -- much pleased tho' starved to death & in great pain.

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[13. April. 1804]

Side much better but still a little uneasy. ... In the evening my Mother, Maria, & I, and the Chattos, Lamb, &c. went to the play. It was Guthrie's benefit -- about £80. The Tragedy of Cato -- Cato by Mr. Kemble, -- Marcus, Lee -- Juva, Foote -- Sempronius, Liston --

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Marcia, Mrs. Stanley were all very well -- but Portius & Lucia by Mara & Mrs. Lee very bad -- it is rather heavy, but in some parts was very fine. Kemble very dignified & impressive in Cato.

Dr. Last's Examination with Liston in Dr. Last was very comic. -- & Animal Magnetism, the farce, is very laughable. Kelly in the Doctor has humor -- Mara in La Fleur was vulgar but more at home than in the play. Lee in the Marquis very well, but Liston in Jeffrey was really capital: nothing could be more ludicrous. Constance, Mrs. Noble & Lisette, Mrs. Kemble -- the latter charming as usual.