

Accession number: 1992-24/17

Description: A Copy of *The Daily Advertiser*, dated Wednesday 13 September 1769, containing a report of the Stratford Jubilee

Transcript: *Extract of a Letter from Stratford, Friday Sept. 8*

“You will doubtless be desirous of knowing what in Sort of place Mr. Garrick delivered the Ode. He sat, dressed in Brown and gold, in the Front of the Orchestra in the Amphitheatre, with his Steward’s Rod in his Hand, and his Medallion about his neck; he opened the performance with a very respectful bow to the Company, which was returned with a Clap of unanimous Applause, and at the end of every Recitative he repeated, he sat down, and gave the singer an opportunity of displaying his or her Abilities. When the ode was finished, Mr. Garrick stood up, and delivered a Prose Encomium on Shakespeare, in which the Poet’s Enemies were called upon to urge whatever they could advance in opposition to his Character. Mr. King, on this, who appeared in a great Coat, desired to be heard – those who knew him expected something extremely whimsical, while many, who did not, testified the greatest Amazement at so unexpected an Attack upon the first Dramatick Poet of their Country.

“Mr. King, who stood in direct line to the orchestra, having expressed his intention of attacking the Reputation of Shakespeare, went round, and speedily (taking off his Great Coat) came into the orchestra, in a suit of fashionable Blue, ornamented with Silver Frogs, to support the justice of his Allegations. Several who thought he was really serious, seemed exceedingly dissatisfied with him, while Numbers who saw into the Intention were highly diverted, and testified a Satisfaction proportioned to the astonishment expressed by the less-informed part of the Auditory. Mr. King having executed his Talk, Mr. Garrick addressed the Ladies in a poetical Speech, complimenting them on the regard they had always shewn to Shakespeare, and exhorting them to support the Reputation of a poet, who was so remarkable for supporting the Dignity of the Female Character. During this Performance, the Benches in various Parts of the amphitheatre from the prodigious pressure of the Company gave Way; and Lord Carlisle was much hurt by the fall of a Door.

“The Masquerade commenced at Twelve o’Clock at Night; several of the characters were well dressed, and sustained their Parts with great Propriety. About Five in the Morning every body retired; and as the Weather continued remarkably wet, and prevented the Pageant, or Representation of all Shakespeare’s Characters, the principal Part of the Company, who had Carriages of their own, went out of Town; Nevertheless, we had a tolerable Assembly at Shakespeare’s Hall in the Evening. Mrs. Garrick danced a

minuet beyond Description gracefully, and joined in the country Dances, which ended at Four, and put an End to the Jubilee.

“The jubilee Race this Day afforded much Diversion to the lovers of the Turf, though the Horses were almost Knee-deep in Water. The Cup was won by Mr. P. A.’s Brown Colt, Whirligig”

On Monday David Garrick Esq. Arrived at Hampton, from Stratford upon Avon.

Notes: Documents held at [Shakespeare Centre Library and Archive](#)

Folio, ff. 30.

Contents:

'An Account of the Jubilee at Stratford on Avon in honor of the immortal Shakespeare the 6th and 7th September 1769. D. Garrick, esq., steward', consisting of copies and extracts by Robert Bell Wheler of matter in prose and verse relating to the Jubilee of 1769; including Garrick's Ode and Oration and 'Shakespeare's Garland'. A great part of the contents was printed by Wheler in his History and Antiquities of Stratford upon Avon, 1806 pp. 164-209.

The volume also includes, besides copies of verses in honour of Shakespeare by Milton, Dr. Samuel Johnson, and others:

The original cover of the volume (now f.1) is dated 13 June 1801, but the dates of the entries extend to 1810.

[no title or date] **ER1/55**

These documents are held at [Shakespeare Centre Library and Archive](#)

Contents:

Engraving of 'Mr. Garrick reciting the Ode... at the Jubilee at Stratford', 1769 (f. 12)

[no title] **ER1/14** 1769-1785

These documents are held at [Shakespeare Centre Library and Archive](#)

Quarto, ff. 173.

Conditions of access: Records should be viewed on microfilm

Contents:

David Garrick Papers, Hereford Museum

Collections by R. B. Wheler on the Stratford Jubilee of 1769, consisting chiefly of:
An Ode... at Stratford upon Avon by David Garrick, London, 1769, quarto (ff. 7-37), followed
by Lloyds Evening Post and British Chronicle, 4 August 1769, 11 March 1771 (ff. 39-169)
These works are interleaved, the inserted leaves containing copies of correspondence, 3
November 1768 - 13 November 1770 (ff. 5 - 24, 56), together with anecdotes, criticisms, verses
and notes on the Jubilee by Wheler.

The following portraits also occur:

Thomas Betterton, f. 4v; Garrick (Miller sc.) f. 5;

Shakespeare, f. 11, 26v; Ben Jonson, f. 28v;

Samuel Johnson (Bartolozzi, 1785), f. 36; Garrick between Tragedy and Comedy (mezz. C.
Corbutt), f.38.

no title] **ER82/11/1/a/4** *No date*

These documents are held at [Shakespeare Centre Library and Archive](#)

Contents:

Copy of a paper in a volume of 'Garrick letters' in Forster Collection, South Kensington, headed
'Memds for Stratford' [re Jubilee].

[no title or date] **DR328/7/4**

These documents are held at [Shakespeare Centre Library and Archive](#)

Contents:

Two facsimiles of the Council Book of the Stratford Corporation recording the election of David
Garrick as a Freeman of the Borough; 11 October 1768.

[no title or date] **ER1/2/38**

These documents are held at [Shakespeare Centre Library and Archive](#)

Contents:

Verses to David Garrick on the occasion of Shakespeare's Jubilee, endorsed 'The first attempt of
Poet [John] Jordan, September 1769. In his own handwriting.'
Folio 75.

[no title or date] **ER1/83/4**

These documents are held at [Shakespeare Centre Library and Archive](#)

Contents:

David Garrick Papers, Hereford Museum

'Antijubileana' pieces in prose and verse in ridicule of Garrick and the Jubilee of 1769 (ff. 69-105)