

Accession number: 1992-24/26a

Description: Single sheet of paper, written on both sides. Verse 'To Lady Glyn upon her laughing at Lear'. Garrick's hand.

Transcript: To Lady Glyn upon her laughing at Lear

Why would you cruel lady Glyn,
At Old Lear's madness smirk & grin,
And harrow up poor David?
He cares not when the house is cramm'd,
Tho He by all the Wits be damn'd,
So He by You is saved:Ø

I would Your Ladyship be kind,
In publick to my faults be blind,
Yet more my wishes drive at;
For if by fashion I'm decreed,
In publick by your hands to bleed
Pray heal my wounds in private.

DG

Ø By the same means with equal Skill
You might as well revive, as kill,
'Tis all my wishes drive at XX

Verso: Note to L[ad]y Glyn & my Nonsense rejoinder

XX Those luckily which every sense confound,
Which given in publick sorely wound,
Would heal my heart in Private.

Notes: See 1992-24/26b for neat transcript.

Aileen Osborn, 'The Literary Material in the Hereford Garrick Papers', M. Phil thesis, University of Birmingham, 1999, 233-6. Other versions: Folger, autograph Y.d.120; Sotheby's Catalogue 18-21 June 1928, Lot 256, p. 34.

p. 234 'The Sotheby's version is apparently taken from the Folger manuscript. It is clear from the variations, and from his corrections to the Hereford text, that Garrick laboured over the precise wording of these verses. His considered final version is probably that of the transcript, 1992-24/26b.)

David Garrick Papers, Hereford Museum

Lady Glyn was presumably Elizabeth, married to Sir Richard Glyn, baronet, Lord Mayor in 1759. Garrick met her occasionally in company of Richard Rigby (Stone and Kahrl, p. 723). (Osborn p. 235)