

Accession number: 1992-24/91

Description: Single sheet of paper, originally folded in half, written on one side only.

Transcript, initialled DG at the end, of verse addressed to the Rev^d James Tatersall, Rector of St. Paul's Covent Garden. [1773]

Transcript: To the Rev^d James Tatersall
Rector of St. Paul's Covent Garden.

All Christian souls on Christmas day
Are bound to feast, & sing & play
We might as well be Jews, Philistines,
By mirth we prove ourselves true Christians
But you may find, hard hearted man,
Here quite reversed the Christian Plan,
Forbid your Nymphs, ungracious Sire
To tune their Throats & touch the Lyre.
Though both my ears were opened wide
Not one sweet Note did in them glide
Thus Sancho Squire of Manchas knight
Had dainties set before his sight,
And though he had a hungry fit
They would not let him touch one bit
A certain Doctor, cross like you,
Stopped the starv[e]d Squire from falling too,
Why should you worthy Tatersall
To mourning turn our Festival
On Christmas day, when Heaven & Earth
In ceaseless song are bursting forth,
Shall joy be clip[e]d from taking wing,
And Angels be forbid to Sing?

D.G.

Notes: Aileen Osborn, 'The Literary Material in the Hereford Garrick Papers', M. Phil thesis, University of Birmingham, 1999, 181-2.

Other versions: Knapp 190; Folger, autograph Y.d.120

'Garrick apparently wrote *Cupid and Damon; or, The Siren Sisters*, with music by Charles Dibdin, for Thomas Rackett Junior and James Tattershall's [*sic*] three daughters to perform as a Christmas entertainment in 1773 (*Letter* 809, note 2). It seems that on the same occasion Tatershall [*sic*] prevented his daughters from singing a

tribute to Garrick, written by Thomas Rackett, with music by Dibdin. Folger Y.d.120 is endorsed with a note to this effect'. Osborn, 182.

For Tatersalls, see also 1992-24/9q

Sancho: Sancho Panza, the eponymous hero's companion in *Don Quixote* by Cervantes. The incident referred to occurs in Part II, Chapter 47.