

W. Harris

21266-7

O. S. J. Monday.

My dear Sir

Mr. Johnston has made me acquainted with your very friendly conversation respecting the claim of G. Colman - I was very happy to find that you had not sent my Father's letter to the Prince, but mean to present it yourself on Thursday -

Indeed my dear Sir however strong our case may be, I should consider our success but very uncertain, without your powerful, & friendly assistance - For I know we have a

most powerful Advocate against us  
is the Duke of York, but we hope  
that thro' your Mediation we shall  
have our Arguments duly considered  
& then we think that Mr Coleman  
will not obtain a Patent for nothing  
which even now the Subscribers to  
Drury Lane Theatre are paying £  
for - & which we have spent our  
Lives & Fortunes in securing -

With regard to Mr. Coleman's  
replying to my Father's Letter I  
do not see the necessity for his

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having that 'Indulgence' - All present  
we stand upon an equal footing -  
He has his Petition & so have we,  
but if he were allowed to answer  
as he is the complainant we should  
have a right to answer too, & thus  
it would lead to a sense of alteration,  
which his Ingenuity could lengthen  
out forever - However in this as in  
everything else, it is my Father's  
wish that you should use your own  
Discretion, being thoroughly persuaded  
that you will act much better  
for him than he could for himself  
I merely told Colman that you had

written to my father that you had  
a petition to present to the Prince  
Deputy & that my father had  
written to you a letter expressing  
of his sentiments against any further  
extension of his license — Hoping  
soon to hear from you believe me

My dear Sir

Yr obliged Servant

Marri

H. Harris