

Contents

Foreword	13
1 Gentlemen and players	15
2 The Linleys of Bath	26
3 Covent Garden and <i>The Rivals</i>	41
4 <i>The School for Scandal</i> and <i>The Critic</i>	56
5 The aspiring politician	70
6 Family tensions	101
7 Warren Hastings	111
8 The Prince and the regency crisis	126
9 'She is an angel; it is all my fault'	138
10 Second Drury, second Mrs Sheridan	150
11 Prince of Wales's man	175
12 Desperate last days	193
Bibliography	207
Index	210