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Anne C. Moreau note 1494

William Winter in his Shakespeare on the Stage speaks of Robert Bensley -

A striking cast of Twelfth Night appears in the record. Aug - 15, 1782 when the Comedy was performed at the Haymarket, with Robert Bensley as Malvolio - -

Bensley's personation of Malvolio still lives in the quaint, genial pages of "Elia". Bensley had been a soldier before he became an actor: he served in the British Army in America, at the time of the Revolution War, holding rank of Lieutenant. His demeanor was stiff and formal; his gait was a "martial stalk", and he indulged a trick of glaring and of rolling his eyes. He was an actor of the artistic lineage of Lunn, - the sovereign representative of the school of "dignity and declamation". His person was commanding and his mind grave. All his peculiarities favored him as Malvolio, and it can well be believed that his performance of the part was perfect. He seems to have furnished a model to