

garet.⁷³

Bonsal and Niles, of Wilmington and Baltimore. -
Hezekiah Niles, destined to become the editor and publisher of the famous Niles' Weekly Register, made his first appearance in Baltimore as junior member of the firm of Bonsal and Niles, in 1799.

The partnership of Bonsal and Niles had been formed early in 1799, for bookselling and job printing, between Vincent Bonsal of Wilmington and the young Niles, who had completed his apprenticeship in Philadelphia about two years earlier.⁷⁴ A branch office was established in Baltimore very soon, but no indication that they would undertake printing is to be found in their first advertisement:

Bonsal & Niles, booksellers. Have just opened their store near Sear's Tavern, no. 173, Market street, Baltimore. A general assortment of books & stationery, which they are willing to dispose of on moderate terms, wholesale or retail. Among their assortment of books, are several new & interesting publications. They have also for sale, excellent red clover seed, and a few barrels of shoes.⁷⁵

Only two publications have been recorded for this firm during 1799, two editions of the Baltimore Repository, for the year 1800,⁷⁶ printed for distribution by the different booksellers in the city. During 1800

⁷³ Baltimore. Wills. Liber W.B. no. 9, folio 224.

⁷⁴ Stone, R.G. Hezekiah Niles as an economist.p.37.

⁷⁵ American. May 22, 1799.

⁷⁶ Appendix A. Imprint bibliography, items 474, 475.