
A History of Printing in Colonial Maryland

cordiality beneath which lay a sinister intention. One turns from Goddard's ill-mannered and splenetic accounts of his Philadelphia experience, however, whenever possible; appreciation of the lack of mental balance which he exhibited in *The Partnership* and in other controversial writings of this period of his life destroys confidence in whatever testimony he offers in his own behalf. Governor William Franklin, writing to his father in London on November 13th, 1766,¹ gives a version of the formation of the partnership by Goddard, Galloway and Wharton, which differs only in temper from that later published in Goddard's pamphlet. It seems, according to His Excellency of New Jersey, that since the dissolution of the firm of Franklin and Hall, the anti-Proprietary party of Pennsylvania had been unable to reach the public through the press. Hall was not favorable to its members, and whatever they submitted either to him or to Bradford for publication in their newspapers was sure to be censored by some one in the Proprietary party before being printed. Reserving a place for Franklin should he desire it on his return, Messrs. Galloway and Wharton therefore had entered into partnership with Goddard, for the particular purpose of publishing an anti-Proprietary newspaper. Goddard had brought several good fonts of type with him, but having left his press in Providence with his mother, Governor Franklin and Mrs. Benjamin Franklin had hired to the partners one of Benjamin's old presses, and rented them the old printing shop in Market Street. The anti-Proprietary members of the Assembly were to see to it that Goddard should receive the public work and that his newspaper should be well patronized. In general, one learns from Governor Franklin, the prospects of the firm were promising, and much satisfactory service was expected from it by the party which was its patron.²

A little more than a month after this letter was written, on December 23, 1766, Goddard issued from his own shop proposals³ for the publication of a newspaper to be known as *The Pennsylvania Chronicle and Universal Advertiser*, and on January 6, 1767, appeared the first issue of a journal which has been described as the best which was published in Pennsylvania prior to the Revolution. In a letter from one of the partners, Thomas Wharton, written to Benjamin Franklin a month later, it was asserted that the new journal had begun publication with seven hundred subscribers.⁴

¹ Franklin Papers, in American Philosophical Society, XLII: 3. Printed in Bigelow, John, *The Complete Works of Benjamin Franklin*, 3: 511.

² For another contemporary reference to the new newspaper, see *Pennsylvania Magazine of History*, 10: 229-232, letter of Wm. Strahan to David Hall.

³ Evans, No. 10319.

⁴ Franklin Papers in American Philosophical Society, II: 66, dated February 7, 1767.