A History of Printing in Colonial Maryland

233. The | Maryland Gazette, | Containing the latest Advices foreign and domestic. | (Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 1761, Nos. 817-869.) [Colophon, as in Nos. 765-815 in the year 1760, except Nos. 817, 818, 820, 822 which are as No. 816 in that year.]

14 x 9 inches; 2 leaves each number except 818, 820, 822, 824, 868 and 869 which have one each; three columns.

MdHS. (two complete copies.) MDSL. (complete.)

234. MILTON, ABRAHAM. The | Farmer's | Companion, | directing | how to Survey Land | after | a new and particular Method. | By Abraham Milton, Farmer, | of Kent County, in Maryland. | Annapolis: Printed for the Author. | MDCCLXI.

Half-title, pp. 34, folding plate.

A copy of this work exists somewhere in private ownership. The compiler had a sight of it some years ago when its title-page as above given was photographed for the Maryland Historical Society. No description was taken of the book at that time, except the brief note given above. The photostat title-page in the Maryland Historical Society indicates Sm. 4to in size.

On Sept. 27 and Oct. 25, 1759, "Abraham Milton, Inspector at Chestertown" published in the Maryland Gazette his proposals for issuing by subscription, provided 400 subscriptions at 20 shillings each were received, The Farmer's Companion, withdrawing his former proposals. His advertisment was accompanied by testimonials to his new method by well known farmers and gentlemen, among them the Rev. Hugh Jones of Cecil County, who signed himself "H. Jones, Philomath." In Maryland Gazette for April 3, 1760, Milton announced a sliding scale for the price of the book, based upon the number of subscriptions which should be received. It was to cost 10 s. down and 10 s. at delivery, but if 500 subscribers were received, then only 7 s. 6 d. at delivery; if 600, only 5 s.; if 700, only 2 s. 6 d.; if 800, nothing at delivery, the original 10 s. being sufficient. On Aug. 14, 1760, in the same newspaper, Milton announced that although the prescribed number of subscriptions had not been received, he proposed to publish the book within two months. It was not, however, until April 23, 1761, that the book was advertised in the Maryland Gazette as "this day published," and to be Sold for "10 s. Ready money only."

Evans, No. 8929, gives this title from Hildeburn, No. 1747:

235. MILTON, ABRAHAM. The Farmer's Companion; instructing how to run land without a compass, and to plat the same in an easy manner. Also a supplement thereto, directing how any person may tell the time of day by a walking stick, or a piece of board, and thereby set off any course of the compass . . . Philadelphia: Printed by Andrew Steuart, 1761.

Hildeburn does not locate a copy of this edition nor give any description of it. It is possible that his entry may be a title made up from a newspaper advertisement of the Annapolis edition, and that Andrew Steuart was not the printer of a Philadelphia edition, but simply the agent employed by Milton to take subscriptions and sell copies in that city.

1762

236. [Green, Jonas. A Letter to his Excellency Horatio Sharpe, Esq; Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over the Province of Maryland; and to the Honourable the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly of the said Province; From Jonas Green, Printer. Annapolis: Printed by Jonas Green. 1762.]

No copy recorded, but in his petition noted below, Jonas Green says: "That your Petitioner has, in a printed Letter addressed to your Excellency and your Honours, set forth with strict Truth, many Particulars, relating to his Situation with the Public, . . ."

237. —To his Excellency Horatio Sharpe, Esq; Governor and Commander in Chief, in and | over the Province of Maryland; and | to the Honourable the Upper and Lower | Houses of Assembly of the said Province; The Petition of Jonas Green, Printer, most humbly sheweth, . . . [Annapolis: Printed by Jonas Green. 1762.]

Broadside. 181 x 141 inches.

Date determined by Cecilius Calvert's endorsement on back that it was noted in his letter of Mch. 1, 1763. That letter was in reply to various ones from Sharpe written in 1762. For the result of this petition see the report