
A History of Printing in Colonial Maryland

ing the title, "The Maryland Gazette, Reviving," and finally on February 20th appeared, "The Maryland Gazette, Revived." On March 6th came "The Maryland Gazette" without further witty or indiscreet modification, and from that time until its ultimate extinction more than eighty years later, there was only one serious interruption to the issues of this celebrated newspaper.¹ Thomas says of Green's journal: "The typographical features of this Gazette were equal to those of any paper then printed on the continent."²

GREEN'S LAST YEARS AND HIS DEATH IN 1767

Throughout the period of his service in Maryland, Green continued to print the session laws of the Province and the *Votes and Proceedings* of the Lower House of Assembly³ together with such other governmental and political papers as circumstances rendered necessary. His great work, however, was the printing of that volume frequently referred to in this study, the edition of the laws compiled by Thomas Bacon. He began the composition of this book in 1762, and worked at it steadily until its completion late in the year 1765. In another chapter the printing of this work will be discussed at length, but there may be quoted at this time the dictum of a bibliographer who has been referred to several times earlier in this narrative: "This sumptuous volume," says Charles Evans, "is a monument to the reverend author, and to its printer, as one of the noblest monuments of printing produced in the American colonies."⁴

On April 16, 1767, the following notice appeared in the *Maryland Gazette*:

On Saturday Evening last died, at his late Dwelling-House, Mr. Jonas Green, for twenty-eight years Printer to this Province, and Twenty-one years Printer and Publisher of the Maryland Gazette: He was one of the Aldermen of this City. It would be the highest Indiscretion in us, to attempt giving the character he justly deserved, only we have Reason to regret the Loss of him, in the various Stations of Husband, Parent, Master and Companion.

In the space beneath this modest notice of the passing of a good man and an honest and accomplished craftsman, Anne Catharine Green begged for the continued patronage by the people of Maryland of her press and newspaper. That this patronage was received the further history of this, the most famous of Maryland presses gives assurance.

¹ Brigham, C. S., *Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820*. (Part III). In *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*, April 1915.

² Thomas, Isaiah, under Newspapers, Maryland.

³ Until the session of May 1747, the printing of the *Votes and Proceedings* had been provided for by ordinance or resolution of each session. It became statutory at the session named.

⁴ Evans, Charles. *American Bibliography*, No. 10049.