
Jonas Green, his Family and his Associates

1767, she be allowed the sum of "Nine hundred and forty-eight dollars and one half a dollar," and further that for her future services as public printer she receive forty-eight thousand pounds of tobacco annually for those years in which there was a session of the Assembly, and thirty-six thousand one hundred and nine pounds of the current medium for the years in which no session was held, the same terms of payment as had been accorded to Jonas Green in the year 1765.

Throughout her eight years of service to the Province as public printer, Mrs. Green's allowance remained unchanged. She attempted no enlargement of interest; her output consisted mainly of the government business and the *Maryland Gazette*, although in addition to work of this character she published an annual almanac, an occasional political pamphlet and one or two satirical pieces. Of literature and religion she published almost nothing except the frequent essays on these subjects which appeared in her newspaper. The most ambitious work of her press, besides the government and newspaper publications, was the neatly printed octavo in which was comprised Elie Vallette's *Deputy Commissary's Guide*, a choice volume where appeared the engraved title-page by Thomas Sparrow of Annapolis, which has been referred to here as the best known example of that engraver's work. In speaking of individual examples of her press, there should not be overlooked her issue of *The Charter and Bye-Laws of the City of Annapolis*, a beautifully printed little volume of fifty-two pages, which for typographical nicety could hardly have been surpassed by the best of her contemporaries in the colonies.

During the years of her conduct of the press, after 1768, Mrs. Green worked in partnership with different ones of her sons. Various imprints,

that the recognition of Mrs. Green's merits was not the only motive which actuated the Assembly in appointing her to the office left vacant by her husband's death. Throughout the spring and summer of 1768 the columns of her journal had been given over week after week to the controversy between "C. D." (Walter Dulany) and "The Bystander" (the learned and unscrupulous Bennet Allen, rector of St. Anne's Parish, pluralist, rake and duellist). Finally, Mrs. Green and her son William refused to publish other letters of "The Bystander" unless he should indemnify them against suit and declare his identity. Allen declared that the Greens, as Jonas Green had been, were under the thumb of the Dulany family and complained strenuously of his exclusion from their newspaper while his enemies were permitted still to use its columns. Mrs. Green's son-in-law, John Clapham, came to the support of his wife's family in a long letter in the *Gazette* of September 22, 1768, in the course of which he wrote: "Mr. Allen's Treatment to Mrs. Green, left a widow, with large Family, he never can justify. On the 27th of May, he called at the Printing-Office, and endeavoured to intimidate her, by threatening to knock up her press, if ever she published any more pieces against him: Accordingly, next Morning, a Manuscript . . . was privately stuck up at the Door of the Stadt-House, the General Assembly then sitting, and the Office of Provincial Printer vacant, by which (tho' not intended) he did her real Service; for she was so happy, soon after, as to be unanimously chosen. It is generally supposed, had he acted a contrary Part, and given her a Recommendation to the Public, she wou'd not, for that very Reason, have received so general a Mark of Friendship and Approbation."

In the bibliographical appendix, under the year 1768, are entered certain broadsides which relate to this quarrel between the Greens and Parson Allen.