



## CHAPTER FIVE

### *James Angell, Brother-in-Law of William Goddard, Partner and Later Owner of the Maryland Journal*



BIGAIL ANGELL'S younger brother James was born on February 10, 1761 in Providence. A tradition in the family says that he was an apprentice to Mrs. Sarah Goddard and printed the *Providence Gazette* while she acted as editor.<sup>1</sup> This could hardly be true since she sold out her business to John Carter in November 1768, and moved to Philadelphia. James would have been only slightly over seven years of age at that time and it is difficult to believe that a son of the man who had been chairman of a committee to revise the laws of the state in 1766, could have worked in a printing office at such a tender age, even as a little "devil."

His father died in 1785 leaving to the four remaining children the property accumulated during his life. The following year in June he apparently had part interest in a trading venture to Nova Scotia, for on June 12 he wrote from Sydney, N.S. to Moses Brown<sup>2</sup> asking him to credit a draft for £25 which he had just drawn on him, and on June 20 he wrote again from Halifax indicating that the prospects of the venture were not favorable. The ship and all she contained seemed to have been seized:

"... they have Positively refused bringing the Vessel or Cargo to a Trial till they hear from England..." and "... the Governor General & Commodore have promised to write to the Secretary in our favor."<sup>3</sup>

Shortly after this he went to Baltimore where his sister was then living with her husband. He probably remained there until he went into partnership with his brother-in-law. He wrote to Moses Brown, who had been an executor of General Angell's will and who remained the financial agent of the children,

<sup>1</sup> See Avery F. Angell, *Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas Angell*. Providence, 1872. Page 47.

<sup>2</sup> Moses Brown Papers. V:67 In Rhode Island Historical Society.

<sup>3</sup> Moses Brown Papers. V:68