

is that of May 28, 1788. There is no record of a paper published at Frederick from this date until February 1790, when the first number of *The Maryland Gazette, and Frederick Weekly Advertiser* was published by John Winter. This paper was printed until at least October 1, 1791. On May 22, 1792, Matthias Bartgis began a weekly paper, which under varying titles continued until a year after his death on April 6, 1825. Very little has been discovered or written on the printing career of Bartgis especially during the period covered by the present study. His enterprises went steadily forward, many books appeared at later dates. Overton Harne who at the age of 97, finished the longest career of any printer in Western Maryland, had become one of Bartgis's apprentices in 1797 at the age of 21. Bartgis deserves monographic treatment because of his great contribution to the cultural development of Western Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia in the late eighteenth century.