A History of the Maryland Press, 1777-1790

In an article defending the so called "cruelties of the democratic party" in awarding the position of Printer to the State to him rather than to Jonas Green, Jehu Chandler said:

"Frederick Green, (late printer to the state,) was continued in office until the day of his death in 1811, by the democrats, notwithstanding he was the editor of a federal paper, and one of the most violent partizans in the federal ranks." 9

Frederick Green's five sons held prominent positions in Annapolis: Jonas helped his father with the newspaper; William was appointed Assistant Clerk of the House of Delegates in 1808 and was soon made Clerk of Anne Arundel County; Henry¹⁰ and Louis were employed in the Farmer's Bank of Maryland; and James worked for his brother William.¹¹

Samuel Green died on January 6, 1811, and his brother Frederick died on January 12. "Thus have two brothers, who were never separate in life, been united in death in one short week." Jonas Green, grandson of the founder of the Maryland Gazette, succeeded his father and printed the newspaper until 1839 when he was obliged by his illness to give it up. He died on November 1, 1845, and thus ended that long and distinguished line of American printers which had begun nearly two hundred years before, when Samuel Green, in 1649, took over the press of the first English printer in America.¹³

[•] Maryland Republican, September 25, 1813.

¹⁰ On the basis of a letter written by Andrew Marschalk in 1837 and quoted in *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*, Vol. 26 (1916) pp. 84-85, mentioning a Mr. Green from Baltimore who brought a press to Natchez, Mississippi, in 1800 and printed a newspaper there for a short time, it has been suggested that the Green family of Annapolis were responsible for early printing there. The Baltimore printer mentioned was probably Henry Green who was listed in the *New Baltimore Directory*...for 1800 and 1801 as a printer. However, there is not enough evidence as yet to justify the belief that the pioneer printer at Natchez was the Henry Green of Annapolis.

¹¹ Maryland Republican, September 25, 1813.

¹² Federal Gazette, January 21, 1811.

¹³ American & Commercial Daily Advertiser, September 7, 1845. Jonas Green's death has been usually given as in 1839 when the paper was discontinued. The Maryland Historical Society has a death warrant form printed by J. Green. It may have been printed in 1840 because the date of execution is for the decade of the 1840's, the last digit being blank. It would be strange indeed if the last known printing of the Green family should have been this form for a death warrant.