

## BOOK PRINTERS IN BALTIMORE

Samuel and John Adams, Baltimore Branch of the Wilmington Firm. - Samuel and John Adams, sons of James Adams, who had established a pioneer press in Wilmington about 1761,<sup>1</sup> opened a branch office in Baltimore during the fall of 1789.<sup>2</sup>

The Baltimore firm published almanacs and a number of books, of which the majority were religious. In 1792 there appeared a succession of books on Swedenborgian doctrine, doubtless ordered printed by the zealous Reverend James Jones Wilmer, later to become William Pechin's associate in newspaper printing. Wilmer had returned from one of his trips to England, a convert to Emanuel Swedenborg's faith, in 1791;<sup>3</sup> and the number of books which were issued during the following year give an indication as to how enthusiastically Wilmer, the first American Swedenborgian, was propagating the creed. In addition to the Liturgy of the New Jerusalem Church,<sup>4</sup> the Adams firm published the Familiar Letters of Reverend Ralph Mather, a minister of the New Jerusalem Church,<sup>5</sup> Queries Con-

1 Scharf, J.T. History of Delaware, 1609-1888. vl, p. 451.

2 Wheeler, J.T. The Maryland press, 1777-1790. p. 72.

3 Wilmer, J.J. Memoirs of the Rev. James Jones Wilmer. p. 237.

4 Appendix A. Imprint bibliography, item 84.

5 Appendix A. Imprint bibliography, item 79.