

January 13, 1798. As it states, it was, "Printed, weekly, by John D. Cary, at the office of the Federal Gazette, in Market-street". What happened to Cary's printing office on Patrick Street is uncertain; it may have expired from lack of patronage, for nothing is known of it after the announcement quoted above.

The magazine continued through twenty-seven issues, and the first volume was closed with an index, as the editor had promised. In the July 14, 1798 edition of the Key, Cary announced his intention of suspending publication for two months, "from some exciting and highly interesting circumstances", but the magazine would be resumed on a monthly basis if five hundred subscribers could be procured. However, the Key never reappeared. Frederick and Frederick County were not ready for such a general and literary magazine.³⁹ It is to be hoped that the "exciting and highly interesting circumstances" proved propitious. No further record of Cary has been found in Maryland, and it is likely that he went to another state. He occupies a place of importance in the annals of Maryland printing as the publisher of the first periodical issued in the state outside of Baltimore.

39 G. Retrospections, literary and antiquarian. p.317