

charged with having attempted it) would have been pleased with the destruction of his press and the ruin of his family.<sup>30</sup>

Samuel Alexander Harrison, writing in the Star, states that Cowan had fallen into habits of dissipation<sup>31</sup> and when, in the last issue of the Herald, Cowan informs his customers that

From the peculiar situation of the editor of this paper, he hereby informs his subscribers and advertising customers that its publication will be suspended from this day until further notice,<sup>32</sup>

Harrison thereupon indulges in the hope that the editor was not in jail!<sup>33</sup>

As far as is known, the Herald was never issued again. James Cowan applied to the General Assembly of the state for release from his debts. His name appears in the list of debtors from Talbot County who were released,<sup>34</sup> and nothing further is known about him. He probably left Maryland, for no record of his later activities remains; but where he went, or under what circumstances he continued his life, are still problems for the historian of Maryland journalism.

- 30 Herald and Eastern Shore intelligencer. November 13, 1804.  
 31 Easton star. June 23, 1874.  
 32 Herald and Eastern Shore intelligencer. November 13, 1804.  
 33 Easton star. September 8, 1874.  
 34 Maryland. Laws, statutes, etc. Laws of Maryland, 1804, chapter CX.