

THE PRESS IN CHESTERTOWN

Robert Saunders, Jr., and George Gerrish launched the first number of the Apollo; or, Chestertown Spy, a semiweekly newspaper, in March, 1793. According to the prospectus, which was printed in the third number, the earliest located,

The Apollo, &c. is intended to be comprised of original and extracted essays, moral, political historical, commercial, agricultural, philosophical, &c. Poetry, anecdotes, and abstracts of foreign and domestic occurrences, which may serve to give the public a just idea of the prosperity and political situation of our own and other countries. To this end the editors earnestly solicit the assistance of the learned, in this and the neighboring counties, who wish the prosperity of their fellow-citizens.

Provided "nothing material should occur," the Apollo would make its appearance every Tuesday and Friday morning, and those subscribers who resided in Chestertown would have it in their hands by nine o'clock. The price would be two dollars and a half per annum. Furthermore, subscribers would receive gratis, at the end of each session of Congress, the proceedings of that body, printed in an octavo pamphlet, an arrangement "much superior to that of having to refer, on every occasion to a file of newspapers."¹

The new Chestertown printing firm did not endure much over a month, for on April 16, Saunders announced

1 Apollo. March 26, 1793.