

Chestertown, but a combination of circumstances leads to that conclusion:

1. No other Robert Saunders, son of Robert Saunders, has been located in Maryland or near-by states, in this period.
2. Robert Saunders of Harford County was born in 1772; therefore in 1793 he was twenty-one years of age, approximately the same age as George Gerrish, and of the usual age for young men of that period to start in the newspaper business.
3. Robert Saunders, senior, was a man of some means,<sup>10</sup> and could have backed his son, financially, in a new enterprise.
4. Robert Saunders, junior, of Harford County had a brother, probably a younger brother, John.<sup>11</sup> In 1799, Philip Edwards, lieutenant of marines, advertised that some of his recruits had deserted. Among them was

A certain John Saunders, a private marine, born in Harford County, state of Maryland, a printer by profession, about 5 feet 6 inches high, dark complexion, dark hair and eyes, and about 25 years of age.<sup>12</sup>

While this admittedly can prove nothing about Robert Saunders, it is interesting to note that three pairs of brothers within the scope of this essay took up the

<sup>10</sup> Harford county, Md. Land records.

<sup>11</sup> Harford county, Md. Wills. Liber SR1, folio 248.

<sup>12</sup> Telegraphe. May 7, 1799.