

guished patronage he enjoys, and assures his fellow-citizens, that neither industry nor attention shall be wanting to entitle him to a continuance of it.¹⁴

This does not sound like an editor's farewell address, but since no issues of the Chestertown Gazette have been found later than December 31, 1793, it may be assumed that the newspaper ceased with that date, or shortly thereafter. Saunders carried on his printing business in Chestertown for a short time, at least, during the year 1794, for An Act to Regulate and Discipline the Militia of this State [Maryland]¹⁵ was issued from his office during that year.

A Robert Saunders, paper-manufacturer, and later, printer and publisher of the newspapers the Diary, and the Time Piece, resided in New York City from 1794 through 1805.¹⁶ Here, again, there is nothing to link this Robert Saunders with the Chestertown printer except similarity of name and occupation.

This was Chestertown's first authenticated printing establishment, the press of Robert Saunders, whose identity is open to considerable question, and of George Gerrish, whose integrity was certainly not above reproach. An interval of seventy-one years had passed

¹⁴ Chestertown gazette. December 31, 1793.

¹⁵ Appendix A. Imprint bibliography, item 183.

¹⁶ McKay, G.L. A register of artists, engravers... 1633-1820. p. 64.