

PUBLISHING TRENDS IN MARYLAND, 1791-1800

The foregoing pages have attempted to present a picture of Maryland's printing activities during the final decade of the eighteenth century, through the lives of the men who operated the presses.

There were forty-five individual printers who worked in Maryland during this decade. Of these, thirty-two printed in Baltimore.

That the period was one of rapid change and expansion may be indicated by the fact that, of these thirty-two Baltimore printers there was only one who was operating a press in the city in both 1791 and 1800. That printer was John Hayes. Two other firms were active in Baltimore in 1791, Goddard and Angell, and Samuel and John Adams; they changed before 1795.

Baltimore had nearly doubled her population in those ten years (13,503 in 1790 and 26,514 in 1800, according to the census figures). At the same time, migration to the west was rapidly settling Frederick and Washington Counties. Increased population demanded more news, and so printing, especially newspaper printing, grew rapidly in the western counties. The demand for additional presses could be met more easily, for, as Wroth points out in his Colonial Printer, paper making and typefounding were expanding indus-