

it became apparent that the local printers were distributing practically every kind of publication desired in their communities.

During the decade 1791-1800, the presses of Baltimore and the other Maryland towns were gradually broadening the scope and number of their publications. The books printed locally were usually those which had a quick appeal. It is true that there were examples of fine printing; Pechin's edition of the Works of Josephus, begun in 1795 is the best example. There were the laws and ordinances, still an important function of the local printer. However, books on timely subjects were much more numerous; they were political pamphlets, national legislation reprinted in convenient form for the convenience of the citizenry, sermons preached on certain momentous occasions, books of rules and proceedings of local organizations, recreational and popular instructive reading (mainly novels, popular songs and verse, with and without music, religious tracts and medical books); school texts, and the ephemeral periodicals, newspapers and broadsides.

George Washington was still the first citizen of the republic, and his resignation from the presidency in 1796, and his death in 1799 were causes for many pamphlet publications in Maryland, as in other states.

With the close of Washington's second administra-