

were to be flown from the flag staff as various kinds of ships were sighted; other private signals were to be flown, answering signals from the ships of those merchants who had subscribed to Porter's service.<sup>89</sup>

In 1798 the signals seem to have been suspended, for want of subscribers.<sup>90</sup> Porter, however, used the Observatory for popular entertainment, especially fireworks display.<sup>91</sup> It is not certain at what date he left Baltimore; he died in New Orleans in 1808.<sup>92</sup>

Pechin, now established at no. 15, Baltimore Street, and temporarily not engaged in newspaper work, procured an additional press, and "a quantity of new type, of an elegant impression, which renders his office very extensive and complete"<sup>93</sup>, and announced that

he is induced to hope for a preference from gentlemen, who have book-work, or hand-bills, &c. of any kind - and assures them, he appropriates his office, and devotes his time, solely to printing in this line.<sup>94</sup>

Pechin did moderately well in the book-publishing trade. He issued at least one school text-book for children, an edition of the New England Primer<sup>95</sup>; and he printed almanacs for the firm of Thomas, Andrews

89 Maryland Journal. April 7, 1797.

90 Federal gazette. December 11, 1798.

91 Ibid. July 1, 1800.

92 Dictionary of American biography. v. 15, p. 83.

93 Federal gazette. April 24, 1797.

94 Ibid. April 24, 1797.

95 Appendix A. Imprint bibliography, item 448.