

of the state, the editor of the Baltimore "American" solicits the patronage of his fellow-citizens for the publication of a newspaper three days in a week, which every exertion shall be made to forward to its customers with the utmost punctuality sic . The name of the proposed paper shall be

The American.
A gazette for the country.

Conditions

1. * It shall be published three days in the week, which days shall be arranged so as to accommodate a majority of the customers by the mail conveyance.
2. It shall be printed on the largest size paper, a new type, and totally devoid of advertisements, except those interesting to its customers.
3. The price to be five dollars a year, paid in advance, after the receipt of the first number, to such persons as may be appointed for that purpose.
4. The first number to commence with the new year 1800, provided 300 subscribers are obtained, and regularly continued thereafter.¹⁴⁶

Exactly when this "country gazette" began publication is not known, for the first issue which has been located is that of July 30, 1800, but it is possible that it began with the new year, as Martin proposed.

It was Maryland's first country edition. Philadelphia's Aurora, edited from 1794 to 1798 by Benjamin Franklin Bache, from the fiery Republican columns of which newspaper Martin drew many editorials, had a tri-weekly edition as early as June 14, 1797;¹⁴⁷ and it is

¹⁴⁶ American. December 6, 1799.

¹⁴⁷ Brigham, C.S. Bibliography of American newspapers, 1690-1820. Part XIII. Pennsylvania (Philadelphia) p. 89.