

possible that Martin's idea came from the Aurora.

The country edition seems to be a variation in impression, rather than a different edition as the name implies. The edition is made possible by the style of make-up of these early papers, which consisted of one folio sheet, folded once, and printed on four pages, pages one and four being devoted to advertisements; and the inside pages, two and three, containing the news, with only a few advertisements. The country edition became a triweekly by including on one sheet the news pages for two days, pages one and four carrying one day's news, and the verso, pages two and three, the next day's. Martin's statement, as quoted above, that "It shall be ... devoid of advertisements, except those interesting to its customers" was thus carried out. The first page of the daily issue usually carried shipping advertisements, and it was presumed that the country subscribers, being far from the harbor, would rarely be interested in such matters. The triweekly edition of the American was continued until after the war between the states.

The yellow fever epidemic in Baltimore, late in the summer of 1800, cast its shadow over the affairs of the American. On August 24, Martin lost his twenty-year-old wife, Sally, a niece of the Honorable Benjamin