
A History of the Maryland Press, 1777-1790

Folio. Two columns.

Leaf measures: 12½ x 8½ inches.

This broadside includes several advertisements so it was probably considered a Supplement to the *Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser* although there is no heading.

Not in Evans.

EPFL.

✓ 55. ——— York-Town. | In Congress, May 6, 1778. | Whereas Congress have received, from their com- | missioners at the court of France, copies of a treaty | of amity and commerce, and of a treaty of alliance, | between the crown of France and these United States, . . . | . . . Annapolis: Printed by Frederick Green. | [1778.]

Folio. Two leaves.

Leaf measures: 12½ x 8 inches.

This broadside contains, besides several extracts from the treaty of alliance and a resolution of Congress ordering its observance, selections from the *London Evening Post* relating to the negotiations between the American commissioners and Lord North regarding the exchange of prisoners of war and also extracts from various letters concerning the progress of the war.

Not in Ford or Evans.

Md Archives. Blue Book No. 1.

1779

56. AMERICAN, PSEUD. To The People of Maryland. | Give me leave to address you upon a subject of the | greatest importance to you and your posterity; a | subject which essentially concerns the welfare, hap- | piness and grandeur of this state . . . [signed] An American. | [Baltimore: Printed by M. K. Goddard, 1779.]

Large quarto broadside. Printed in three columns.

Leaf measures: 15 x 10½ inches.

This important broadside by a Marylander contains a spirited statement of the advantages to Maryland of joining the Confederation which had already been adopted by ten of the states. Using the fact that the larger states had made concessions and sacrifices in order that the union might be possible, the author argues that Maryland should renounce her claims in the disposal of Western lands. He also attempts to show that the advantages of ownership and sale of the Western lands are mainly imaginary since sales will be few if prices are high and probably a new state will be created beyond the mountains so that the political advantages of ownership will be small. The advantages of immediate ratification were so great with respect to maintaining the value of paper money, strengthening the French alliance, settling claims with other states and above all presenting a united front against Great Britain that he urges Maryland to become as soon as possible "a link in the grand and golden chain of the continent." It is probable that this broadside appeared before the "Instructions" of the Maryland delegates were read in Congress on May 21, 1779, since it is unlikely that the author would speak of the official representatives of the state as ". . . among those, who oppose your assent to the confederacy, and warmly dissuade you from it, are a considerable number of moderate men, neutrals, and tories. I cannot suppose that the opinion of such men can have any weight with you. When such reptiles presume to advise on public measures, you ought to hear them with diffidence and suspicion." It is interesting to discover that what has been considered Maryland's greatest contribution to the United States in this period, the refusal to ratify the Confederation until the Western lands became the property of all the state, drew forth this criticism from one of her own citizens. Rede says Luther Martin wrote this but gives no evidence in support.

Not in Evans.

MdHS.

✓ 57. CARROLL, CHARLES. A | Letter | From | Charles Carroll, Senior, | To The | Reader. | With | His Petition to the General Assembly | of Maryland; | His Speech in Support of it; | And, | The Resolutions of the House of | Delegates thereon. | [ornamental rule] | [seven lines of quotations] | [ornamental rule] | Annapolis: | Printed By Frederick Green. | MDCCLXXIX.