
INTRODUCTION

The history of printing in Maryland has been brought down to 1800 by three bibliographers working independently at considerable intervals of time. Their works, to each of which is appended an imprint bibliography, are as follows:

Wroth, Lawrence C. History of printing in colonial Maryland, 1686-1776. Baltimore, 1922.

Wheeler, Joseph T. The Maryland press, 1777-1790. Baltimore, 1938.

Minick, A. Rachel. History of printing in Maryland, 1791-1800. Baltimore, 1949.

Maryland imprints, 1801-1810, which is frankly imitative of John E. Alden's Rhode Island imprints, 1727-1800 (New York, 1949) in inclusiveness and method, differs from its predecessors. In it the tail wags the dog; in fact, the tail is the dog, for the imprint bibliography is the book, and there is no attempt at a history of the printing of the period.

Again, the imprints described below are with rare exceptions limited to books and broadsides. Excluded are not only engravings, lottery tickets, blank forms and sheet music, but also newspapers, now so thoroughly covered in Brigham's monumental work as to eliminate the need for including descriptions of them in bibliographies of the period before 1820.

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My primary source material has been the records collected by the American Imprints Inventory some fifteen years ago, covering library holdings throughout the United States. These records, now housed in the Library