

STORIES of New Jersey

drew Marvel, at the Sign of the Bribe refused, of Constitution Hill, North-America."

Parker's death in 1770 left an opening for a printer in New Jersey, and Isaac Collins of Philadelphia set up business in Burlington that year. Shortly afterward he became printer to the government. With the backing of the legislature Collins established in December 1777 the *Jersey Gazette*, the first regular newspaper in New Jersey. The paper was printed at Trenton from 1778 until it was discontinued in 1786 for lack of patronage. Collins also printed editions of the New Testament and the Bible and a compilation of the State laws from 1776 to 1783.

In 1779, as opposition to the British-controlled newspapers of New York, Sheppard Kollock, a Continental Army lieutenant, began publishing the *New-Jersey Journal* at Chatham. To this obscure village, out of reach of the British troops, the Revolutionary Army sent paper and, when no paper was to be had, remnants of old army tent cloth to be made into paper.

Kollock and a partner began the *Political Intelligencer* at New Brunswick in 1783, but two years later Kollock became sole owner and moved his paper to Elizabethtown, where he published it as the *New-Jersey Journal* until 1818. The *Elizabeth Daily Journal*, one of the oldest newspapers in the country and the oldest in the State, is its direct descendant. Among the important books Kollock printed in Elizabethtown was one of the earliest editions of Weems' *Life of Washington*, in which the famous cherry tree first appeared.

Another New Jersey printer was Philip Freneau, "Poet of the Revolution." Freneau set up a press at his home at Mount Pleasant and published a small weekly paper called the *Jersey Chronicle* in 1795-6. He also printed a collection of his poems. (See Bulletin No.3, Series 1939-40.)

The value of New Jersey printing kept pace with and even grew faster than that of the rest of the country during the nineteenth century and up to the present. In 1931 the industry reached its peak production of 53 million dollars. Though now the printing business accounts for less than 2 percent of the annual total production value of the State's industry, it amounts to more than 44 million dollars.

The big period of increase in the country, but especially in New Jersey, came after 1850. While the value of printing for the United States multiplied about 26 times between 1860 and 1914, the New Jersey product jumped 36 times in value. Increased population was a factor in this growth, but technical developments were also important. New Jersey printers quickly adopted the new inventions.

The last United States census of manufactures in 1937 listed 589 plants in New Jersey that produce at least \$5,000 worth of printing annually. They employ 8,500 wage earners and pay them annually more than 13 million dollars.

PAPER AND INK

In these days when newspaper plants turn out huge editions of 64-page newspapers in several hours, it is difficult to realize the problems that confronted the colonial printer. Now a paper dealer can deliver practically any quantity of paper in almost any color or size. Even small dealers stock ink by the ton. And type is cast in complete lines by a machine that operates almost as easily as a typewriter, or in individual pieces by machines that produce thousands of letters every hour.

But in colonial times type, ink, paper and a press were all made by hand, slowly and laboriously. Almost all the newspapers then carried appeals for linen rags, for it was only from this material that paper could be made. To make paper the linen was soaked in water and beaten to a pulp which was poured