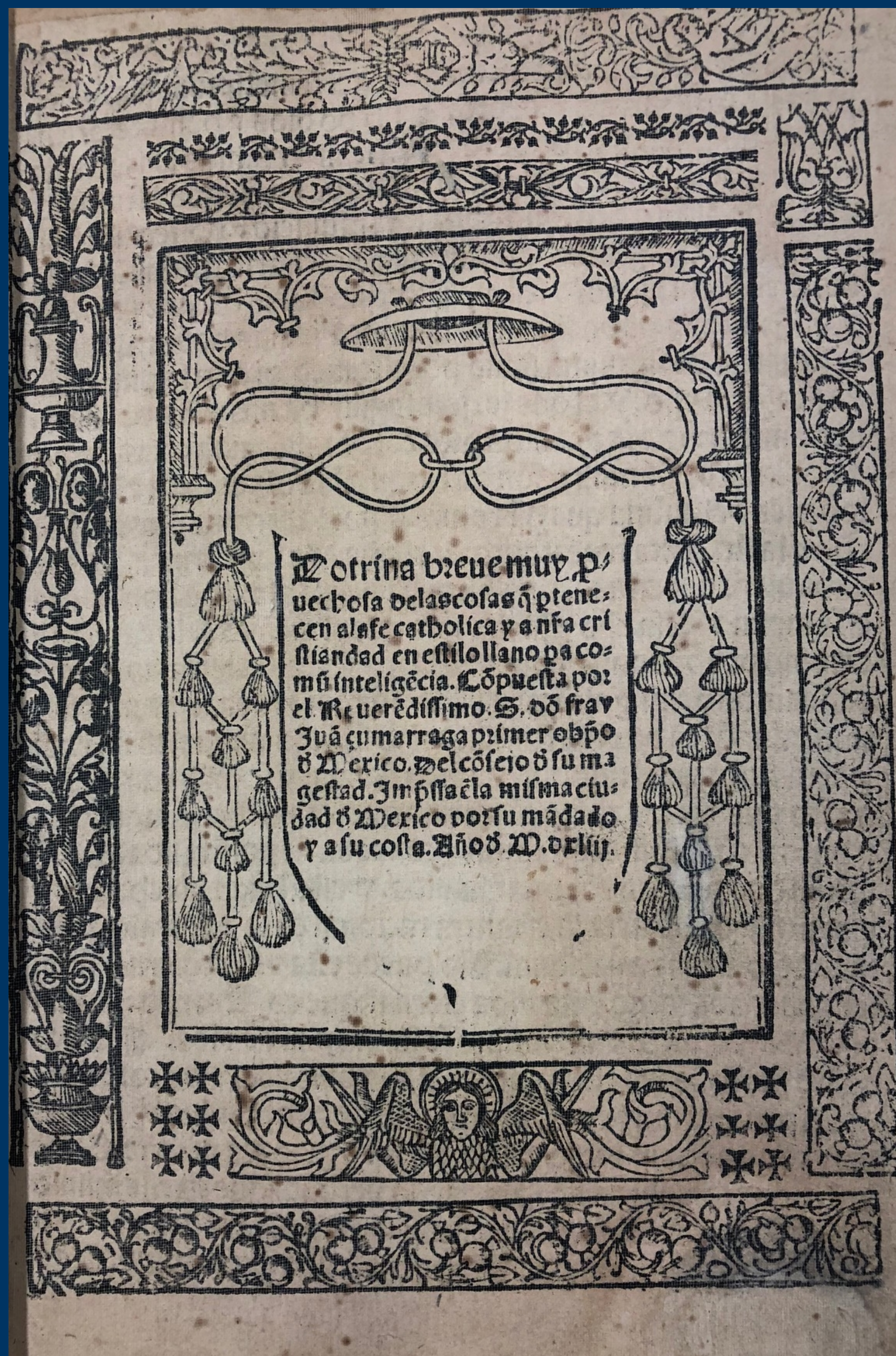


OLLI PRINTED BOOK WEEK 4

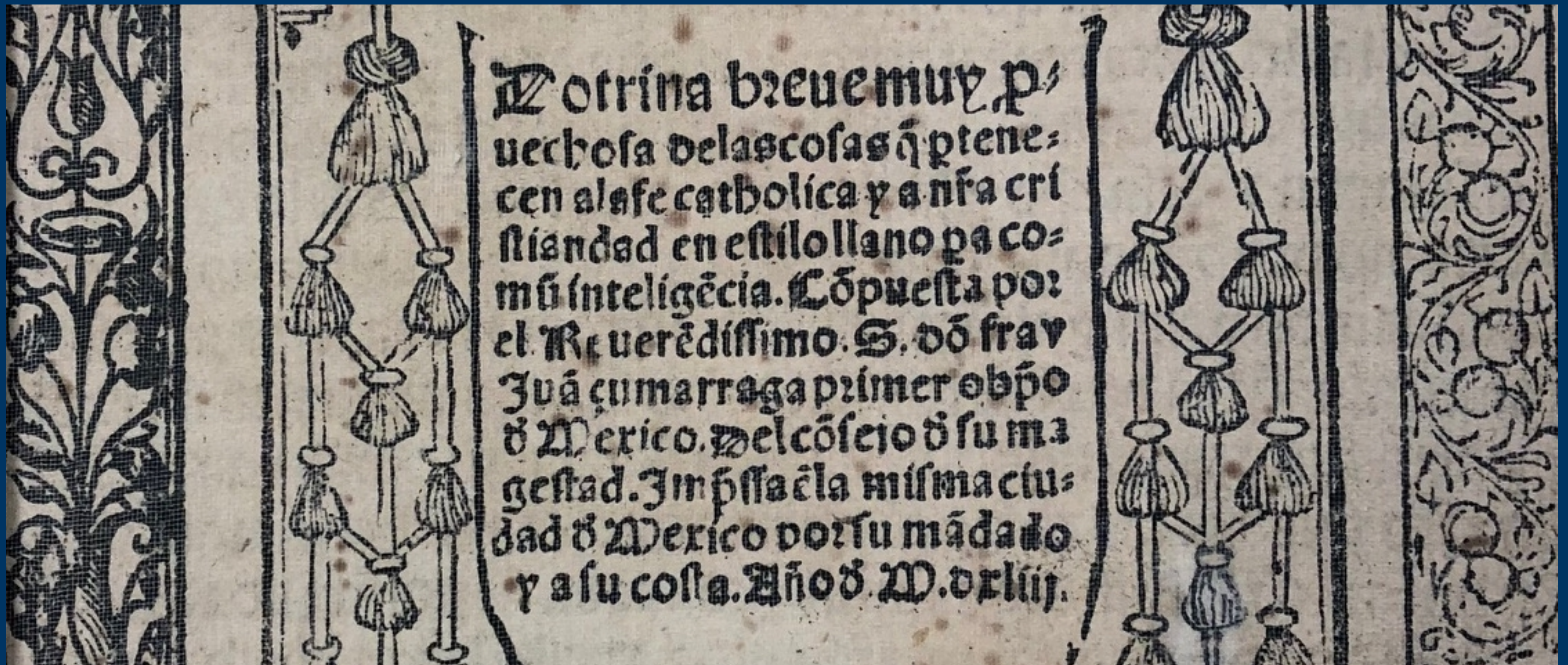
The Book in Colonial America



The first book printed in the Americas: *Breve y mas compendiosa doctrina Christiana en lengua Mexicana y Castellana* by Juan de Zumárraga, OFM (1468-1548), printed by Juan Pablos/Giovanni Paoli in Mexico City in 1539. (Not extant.)

Pictured: the first book from Juan Pablos' press that does survive, Zumárraga's *Doctrina breve*, 1543.

Juan de Zumárraga was the first Bishop of Mexico and he introduced the press to Mexico and brought Juan Pablo to run it.



Doctrina breuemuy p
uechosa delas cosas q̄ptene
cen alafe catholica y a nra cri
stianidad en estilollano pa co
mū intelligēcia. Cōpuesta por
el Reuerēdissimo. S. dō fray
Juá cumarraga primer obpo
d Mexico. Del cōsejo d su ma
gestad. Impssa e la misma ctu
dad d Mexico por su mādado
y a su costa. Año d. M. d. xliij.

Zumárraga's *Doctrina breve*, Mexico City, 1543, detail. The font replicates the variety of Gothic script used in late medieval Spain. Note sorts with abbreviation marks, correct use of hyphens, multiple ornaments, etc.

THE FIRST PRINTER IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

Stephen Day(e), locksmith who sailed from England in 1638 with Rev. Jose(ph) Glover, who was planning to establish a printing press in Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Glover died en route and so his widow and Daye figured out how to set up the press.

(Elizabeth Glover later married the first president of Harvard and her press went to the university.)

The Bay Psalm Book, printed by Stephen Day in Cambridge, Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1640

THE
VVHOLE
BOOKE OF PSALMES
Faithfully
TRANSLATED into ENGLISH
Metre.

Whereunto is prefixed a discourse de-
claring not only the lawfullnes, but also
the necessity of the heavenly Ordinance
of singing Scripture Psalmes in
the Churches of
God.

Coll. III.
*Let the word of God dwell plentifully in
you, in all wisdom, teaching and exhort-
ing one another in Psalmes, Himnes, and
spirituall Songs, singing to the Lord with
grace in your hearts.*

James v.
*If any be afflicted, let him pray, and if
any be merry let him sing psalmes.*

Imprinted
1640

THE
VVHOLE
BOOKE OF PSALMES
Faithfully
TRANSLATED into ENGLISH
Metre.

Whereunto is prefixed a discourse de-
claring not only the lawfullnes, but also
the necessity of the heavenly Ordinance
of singing Scripture Psalmes in
the Churches of
God.

Daye's earliest works:

Oath of a Freeman, 1639 (none extant)

Almanac, 1639 (none extant)

The Bay Psalm Book, 1640 (1700 printed, 11 survive)

The Oath of a Freeman, printed by Stephen Day in Cambridge, Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1638/39

FORGERY! Printed by Mark Hofmann, 1985.

THE OATH OF A FREEMAN.

I·A·B· being (by Gods providence) an Inhabitant, and Freeman, within the iurisdiction of this Common-wealth, doe freely acknowledge my selfe to bee subject to the governement thereof; and therefore doe heere sweare, by the great & dreadfull name of the Everliving-God, that I will be true & faithfull to the same, & will accordingly yield assistance & support therunto, with my person & estate, as in equity I am bound: and will also truely indeavour to maintaine and preserve all the libertyes & priviledges thereof, submitting my selfe to the wholesome lawes, & ordres made & stablished by the same; and further, that I will not plot, nor practice any evill against it, nor consent to any that shall soe do, butt will timely discover, & reveall the same to lawefull authoritee nowe here stablished, for the speedie preventing thereof. Moreover, I doe solemnly binde my selfe, in the sight of God, that when I shalbe called, to give my voyce touching any such matter of this state, (in which freemen are to deale) I will give my vote & suffrage as I shall judge in myne owne conscience may best conduce & tend to the publick weale of the body, without respect of personnes, or favour of any man. Soe help mee God in the Lord Iesus Christ.

and preserve all the libertyes of, submitting my selfe to the & ordres made & stablished by the same; and further, that I will not plot, nor consent to any

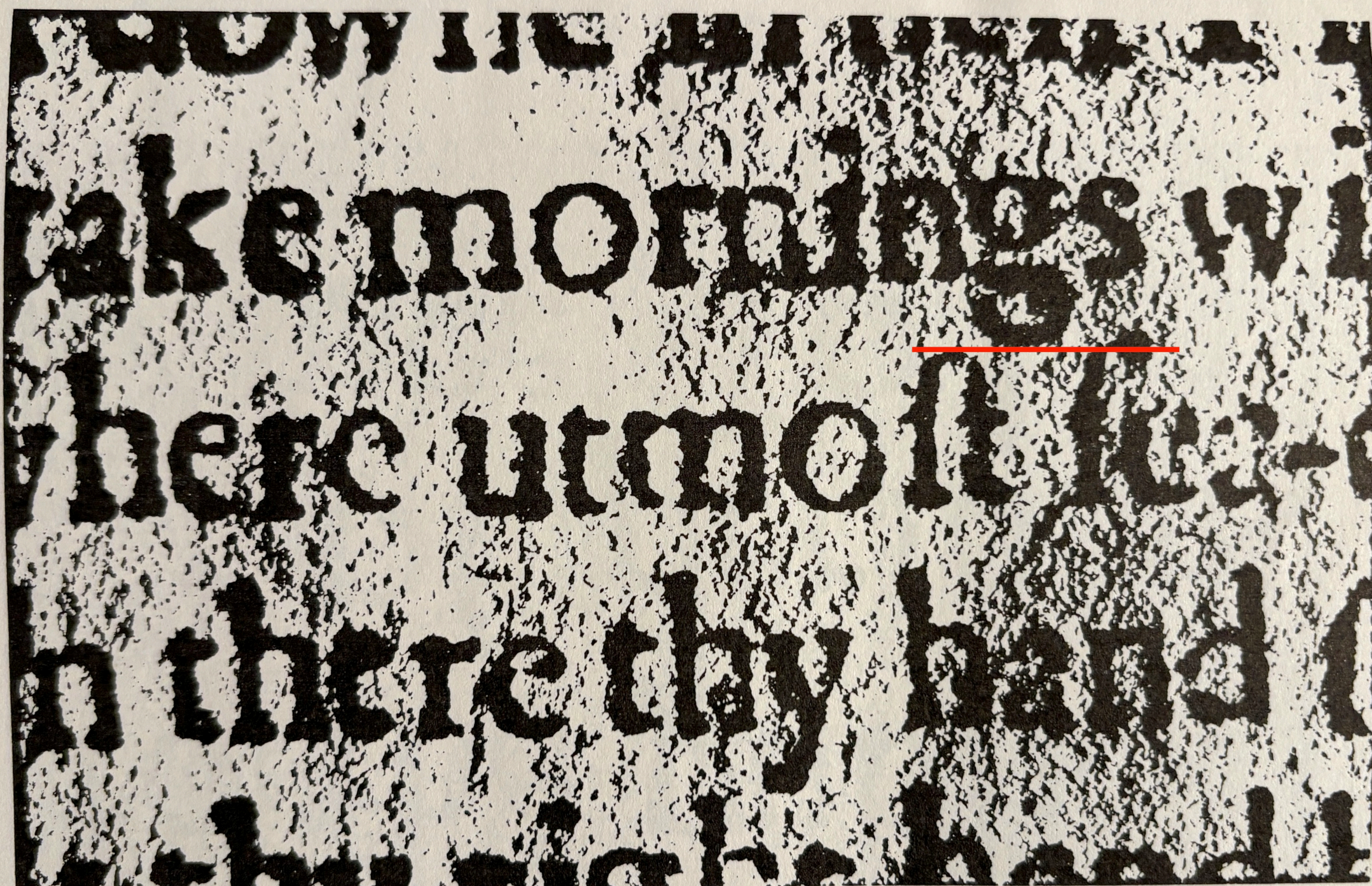


Fig. A. Section from a page in the Bay Psalm Book that shows the letter "g" in "mornings" interfering with two letters directly below it.

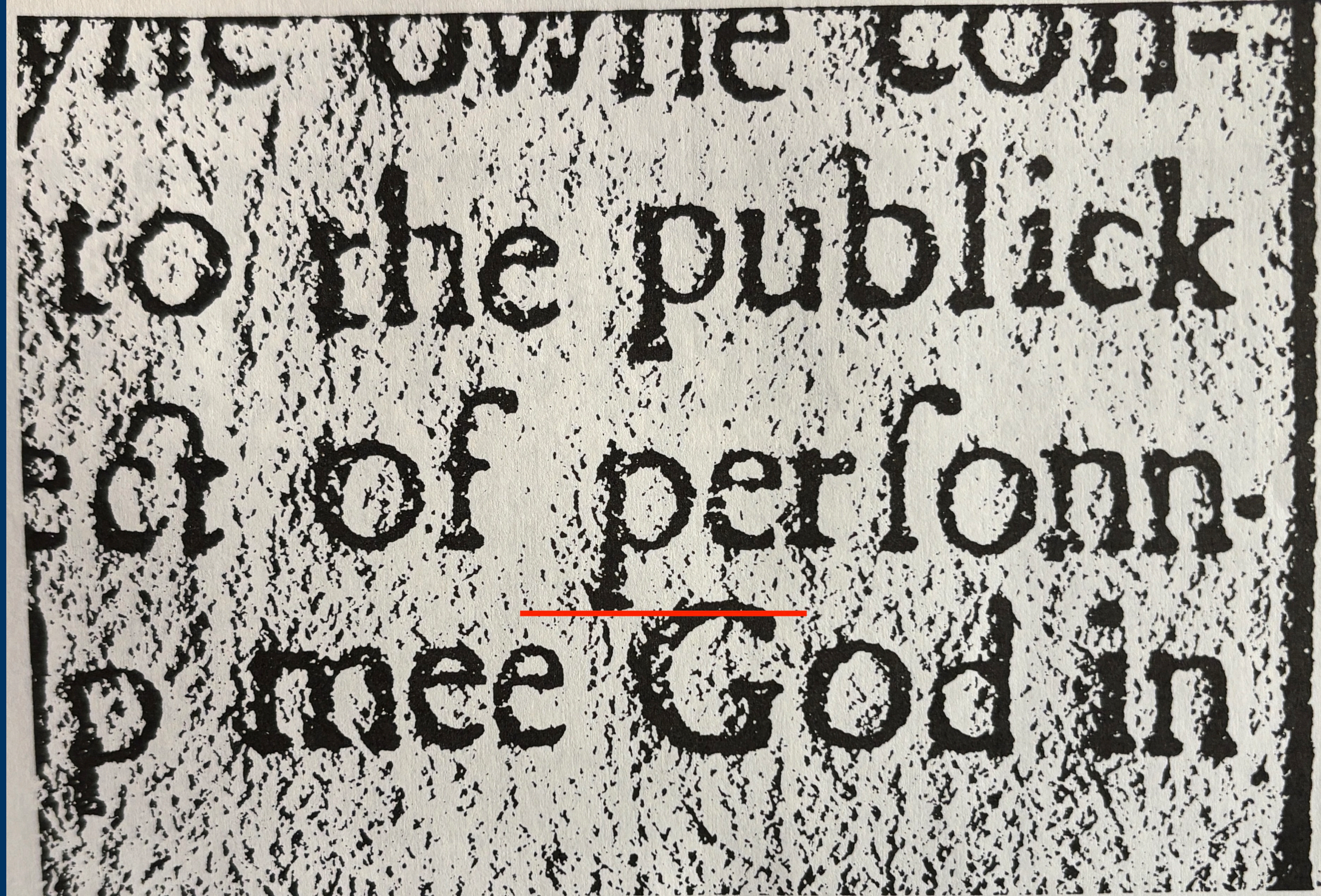


Fig. B. A section of the 'Oath of a Freeman' that shows the "p" in "personn." and the "G" in "God" entering into common space.

From Gilreath, *The Judgment of Experts*: places where *The Bay Psalm Book* (left) and *Oath of a Freeman* (right) both show letters impinging on the spaces of the lines above and below. (Red lines added by me. Not to scale.)

From James Gilreath, ed., *The Judgment of Experts: Essays and Documents about the Investigation of the Forging of the Oath of a Freeman* (1991):
Examination of paper, looking for a match in 17th-century Massachusetts books

1. Although there is no watermark on the paper on which the Oath is printed, the pattern and spacing of chain lines is sufficiently distinctive so that one might hope to match it with paper used in some other product of the first Cambridge press. I have not yet been able to find any such match.

The paper of the Oath does not appear in any of the following:

Bay Psalm Book, 1640 (Evans 4, AAS and JCBL copies),

Bay Psalm Book, 1647 (Evans 20, JCBL copy),

Cambridge Platform, 1649 (Evans 25, AAS and JCBL copies),

Bay Psalm Book, [1658? 1669?] (Evans 49, Brown Univ. copy),

Norton's Heart of New-England, 1659 (Evans 56, JCBL copy),

Eliot's Indian New Testament, 1661 (Evans 64, both JCBL copies),

Propositions Concerning Baptism, 1662 (Evans 68, JCBL copy),

Eliot's Indian Old Testament, 1663 (Evans 73, JCBL copy),

Davenport's Discourse, 1663 (Evans 79, JCBL copy),

Higginson's Cause of God, 1663 (Evans 80, JCBL copy),

Shepard's Church-Membership, 1663 (Evans 82, JCBL copy).

In the above list, Evans 20 and Evans 49 may have been printed in England.

The JCBL copy of Winthrop's Declaration [1645?] (Evans 17) could not be found, probably because of misshelving.

I have not yet found the time to examine the Brown University copy of Eliot's Indian Bible (Evans 64 and 73).

It is probably safe to assert that the Oath is not printed on paper belonging to the supply which Mr. Glover imported to New England in 1638 for the use of the first Cambridge press.

If anything, the paper of the Oath more resembles (in the spacing of its chain lines and in its coloring) that found in the Cambridge imprints from the early 1660's, although there is no exact match here either. These Cambridge imprints are on paper imported in 1660 and subsequent years.

If the Oath is authentic, it most likely was printed on paper from some other supply, for example, a hypothetical supply available to the General Court for its own business. In this case, one might expect to find an exact match among the early manuscript records of Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Image from the collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Not to be reproduced without permission.

M A M U S S E

WUNNEETUPANATAMWE

UP-BIBLUM GOD

NANESWE

NUKKONE TESTAMENT

KAH WONK

WUSKU TESTAMENT.

Ne quoshkinnumuk nashpe Wurtinneumoh *CHRIST*
noh asoweit

JOHN ELIOT.

C A M B R I D G E :

Printeuoop nashpe Samuel Green kah Marmaduke Johnson.

1 6 6 3.

The Eliot Indian Bible, printed by Samuel Green and Marmaduke Johnson, Cambridge at Harvard University's press, 1663.

A translation of the Bible into Massachuset, an Algonquian language aka Wampanoag or Natick, by John Eliot with John Nesutan and James Printer.

The first Bible printed in the Americas.

Printers' Equipment in the N. American Colonies

PRESSES could be built locally, though most printers seem to have continued to import them throughout the 18th century.

PAPER could at least be procured locally, though it was always expensive.

British mercantilist policies encouraged British paper mills to sell to the American market, which propped up their businesses in the face of Continental competition. But Colonial printers also bought a great deal of paper from Dutch, Italian, and French mills, often smuggled.

Pennsylvania paper mills as they grew supplied lower-quality papers for printing

newspapers, almanacs, broadsides, etc., while English mills focused on the market for writing paper.

TYPE remained a crunch point: American printers imported European type with rare exceptions and no successful American typefoundry existed before the 1790s.

Punchcutting required a long apprenticeship in the few European houses that controlled the trade. Even matrices produced in these businesses were very expensive and hard to get. Works printed in America show evidence of shortage of quality types: worn type, mixed fonts and sizes, etc.



The “common press” thought to have been used by Benjamin Franklin as a young man in London.

Note that the frame is wood, the platen is wood, and the platen is still only big enough to print one folio page or half a large sheet of paper (about 12 x 18 in). An improvement over Gutenberg’s version is that this is a 2-pull press: one pull of the lever pulls the screw down to print one page, then you slide the forme the rest of the way in and pull again to print the other page. So the platen is not yet improved, but the screw mechanism and the bed for carrying the forme under the platen are.

Type foundries in America, according to Isaiah Thomas, *The History of Printing in America*, 1810.

Pica = 12 pt.

Long Primer = 10 pt.

Note that before the Sowers (Sauers) got into the business, Benjamin Franklin had supplied the market for German-language printing, but Franklin used only Roman types.

The first regular foundry was established at Germantown, Pennsylvania, in 1772, by Christopher Sower, the second of that name. All the implements for this foundry were imported from Germany, and intended solely for casting German types. It is somewhat remarkable that the first establishments for paper making and type founding in the English colonies, should be in this place. The interval between the two establishments was eighty-four years. Sower's first object in setting up the foundry was to cast pica types for a quarto edition of the German Bible. His father had, many years before, printed an edition on long primer, and the son had printed another on pica. This was for a third edition, and it was his intention to cast a sufficiency of types to keep the whole work standing.

nach der Deutschen Uebersetzung

D. Martin Luthers;

Dritte Auflage.

German town:

Gedruckt und zu finden bey Christoph Saur, 1776.

The title page of Sauer the younger's Bible
(3rd ed., 1776)

BIBLIA,

Das ist:

Die ganze Göttliche

Heilige Schrift

Alten und Neuen

Testaments,

nach der Deutschen Uebersetzung

D. Martin Luthers;

Mit jedes Capitels kurzen Summarien, auch
beygefügt vielen und richtigen Parallelen:

Nebst einem Anhang

Des dritten und vierten Buchs Esra, und des
dritten Buchs der Maccabäer.

Dritte Auflage.

German town:

Gedruckt und zu finden bey Christoph Saur, 1776.

Early linen and paper trades in British North America

Home of William Rittenhouse, proprietor of the first paper mill in British North America, Germantown, PA. Paper mill est. 1690; house 1707. Note the creek: Monoshone Creek aka Paper Mill Run. NB: Germantown was a center of linen production.



Rittenhouse was from Germany and learned papermaking in the Netherlands before emigrating. A Mennonite from a long line of papermakers.

Background to the development of the paper industry in Pennsylvania:

Flax-linen industry in Germany was huge, especially the Rhineland, in the 17th century...

... strengthened by migration of Mennonite refugees from Low Countries and Switzerland and Huguenots from France.

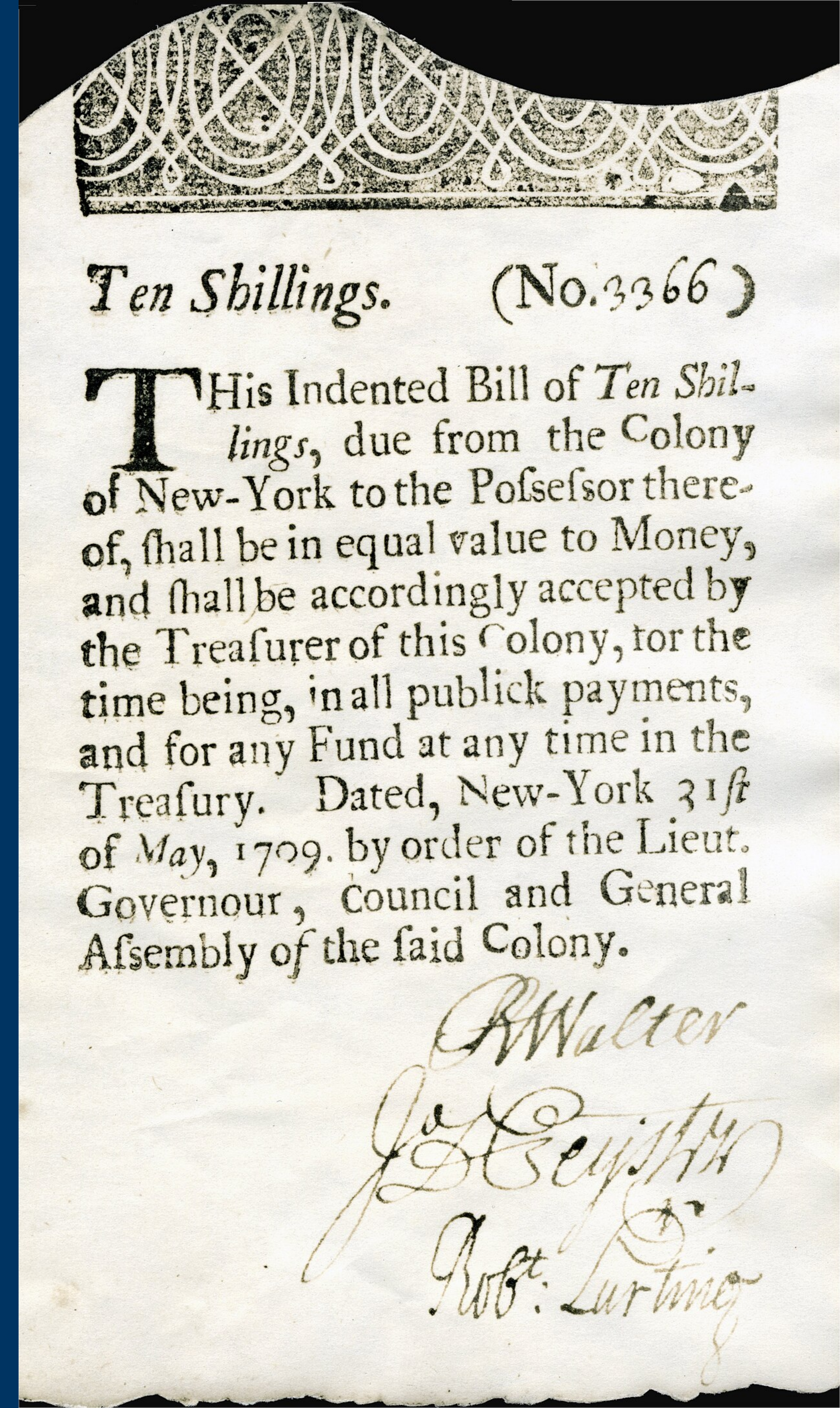
Mennonites began settling in Pennsylvania in 1683.

Late 17th c.–1730: Linen production as a commercial enterprise in Ireland overtakes that of Germany. 18th-c. Scotch-Irish emigration from Ulster to America, especially via Philadelphia into the inland South, brought more skilled linen weavers.

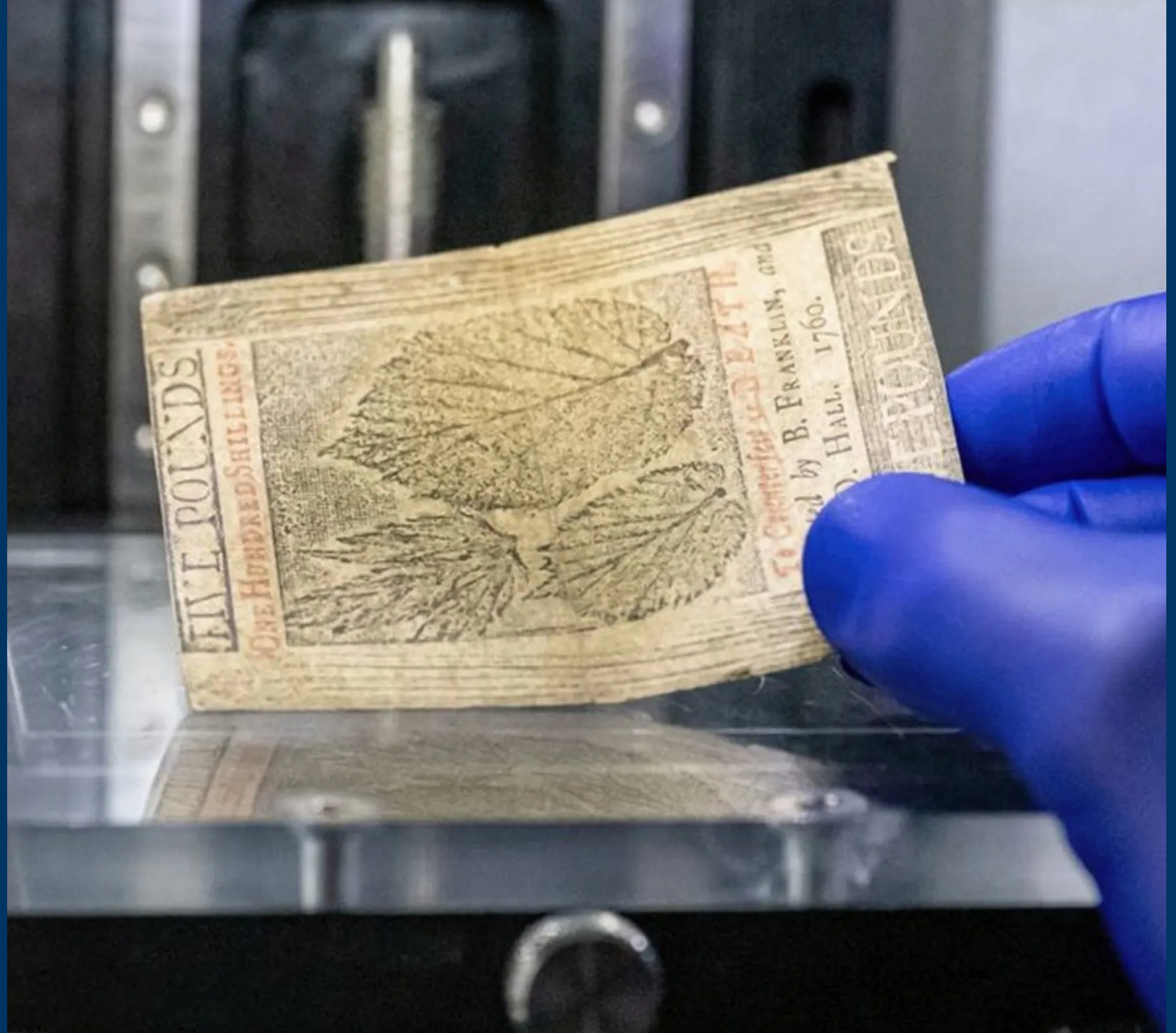
William Bradford, 1663-1752, first printer in the middle colonies, was chief investor in and chief customer of Rittenhouse's paper mill.

Apprenticed to the most prominent Quaker printer in London ca. 1680; emigrated to join Wm. Penn's colony in 1685.

Right: the first paper currency printed for New York by William Bradford, 1709. Note the indenture!



Franklin, Bradford's great rival, had much more innovative techniques for preventing counterfeiting, including intricate impressions of leaves and blue fibers added to the paper.



CHAPTER 17.

AN ACT FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF MAKING PAPER.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the making paper within this province will be of public benefit and service, but inasmuch as the erecting mills for that purpose and providing workmen and materials for the effecting that undertaking will necessarily demand a considerable disburse of money for some time before any profit or gain can arise therefrom; *and whereas* Daniel Henchman, Gillam Phillips, Benjamin Faneuil and Thomas Hancock, together with Henry Dering, are willing and desirous to undertake the manufacturing paper; wherefore, for the promoting so beneficial a design,—

Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,

[SECT. 1.] That the sole privilege and benefit of making paper within this province shall be to the said Daniel Henchman, Gillam Phillips, Benjamin Faneuil, Thomas Hancock and Henry Dering, and to their associates, for and during the term of ten years from and after the tenth day of December next ensuing: *provided* the aforesaid Daniel Henchman, Gillam Phillips, Benjamin Faneuil, Thomas Hancock and Henry Dering, shall make or cause to be made within this province, in the space of twelve months next after the tenth day of December next, two hundred rheam[e] of good, merchantable, brown paper and printing paper, sixty rheam thereof, at least, to be printing paper; and within the space of twelve months then next coming, shall cause to be made within this province fifty rheam[e] of good merchantable writing paper, of equal goodness with the paper commonly stamp't with the London arm[e]s, over and above the afores[ai]d two hundred rheam of brown paper and printing paper.

And further

Sole privilege
of making
paper granted
to Daniel
Henchman,
&c., for ten
years.
Conditions.

An Act for the
Encouragement
of Making Paper,
Massachusetts
Bay Colony, 1728

Newspapers and freedom of the press in England and America

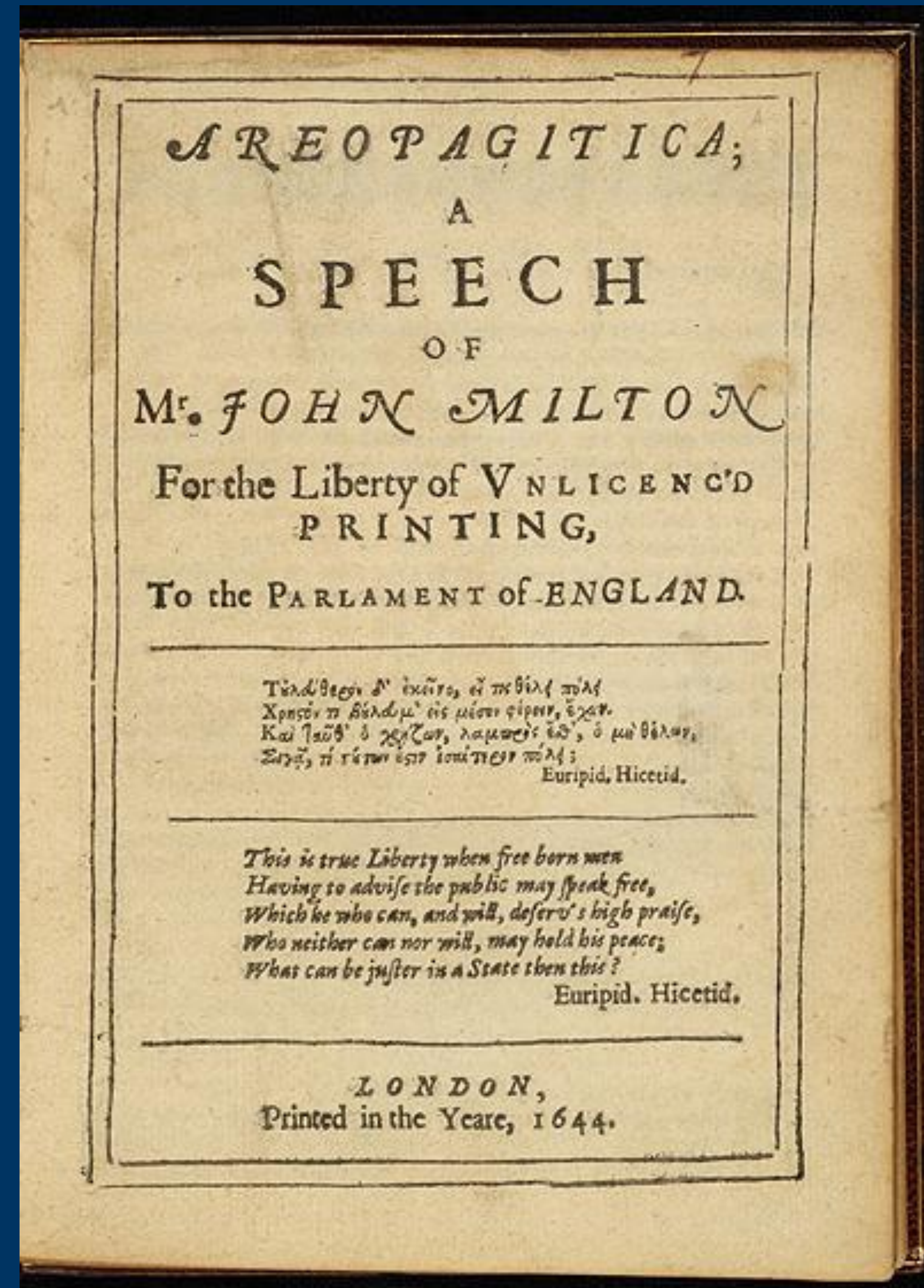
Pre-1640: Star Chamber restricted printing under Chas. I's personal rule until the Habeas Corpus Act.

The Licensing Order of 1643 imposed Parliamentary censorship.>> Milton's Areopagitica (right); flourishing of an underground radical press in the Civil War.

Restoration: Renewed Licensing Act tightened restrictions on the press.

1695: Parliament allowed the Licensing Act to lapse.

Reign of Queen Anne (1702-1714): Huge growth of newspapers and pamphleteering from the London press.



Numb. 1.

PUBLICK OCCURRENCES

Both *FORREIGN* and *DOMESTICK*.

Boston, Thursday Sept. 25th. 1690.

IT is designed, that the Countrey shall be furnished once a month (or if any Glut of Occurrences happen, oftener,) with an Account of such considerable things as have arrived unto our Notice.

In order hereunto, the Publisher will take what pains he can to obtain a Faithful Relation of all such things; and will particularly make himself beholden to such Persons in Boston whom he knows to have been for their own use the diligent Observers of such matters.

That which is herein proposed, is, First, That Memorable Occurrences of Divine Providence may not be neglected or forgotten, as they too often are. Secondly, That people every where may better understand the Circumstances of Publique Affairs, both abroad and at home; which may not only direct their Thoughts at all times, but at some times also to assist their Business and Negotiations.

Thirdly, That some thing may be done towards the Curing, or at least the Charming of that Spirit of Lying, which prevails amongst us, wherefore nothing shall be entered, but what we have reason to believe is true, repairing to the best fountains for our Information. And when there appears any material mistake in any thing that is collected, it shall be corrected in the next.

Moreover, the Publisher of these Occurrences is willing to engage, that whereas, there are many False Reports, maliciously made, and spread among us, if any well-minded person will be at the pains to trace any such false Report so far as to find out and Convict the First Raisher of it, he will in this Paper (unless just Advice be given to

from them, as what is in the Forces lately gone for Canada, made them think it almost impossible for them to get well through the Affairs of their Husbandry at this time of the year, yet the Season has been so unusually favourable that they scarce find any want of the many hundreds of hands, that are gone from them; which is looked upon as a Merciful Providence

While the barbarous Indians were lurking about Chelmsford, there were missing about the beginning of this month a couple of Children belonging to a man of that Town, one of them aged about eleven, the other aged about nine years, both of them supposed to be fallen into the hands of the Indians.

A very Tragical Accident happened at Water-Town, the beginning of this Month, an Old man, that was of somewhat a Silent and Morose Temper, but one that had long Enjoyed the reputation of a Sober and a Finne Man, having newly buried his Wife, The Devil took advantage of the Melancholly which he thereupon fell into, his Wives discretion and industry had long been the support of his Family, and he seemed hurried with an impertinent fear that he should now come to want before he dyed, though he had very careful friends to look after him who kept a strict eye upon him, lest he should do himself any harm. But one evening escaping from them into the Cow house, they there quickly followed him found him hanging by a Rope, which they had used to tie their Calves withal, he was dead with his feet near touch-

The first
American
newspaper
(Boston
1690) and
the order
shutting it
down

BY THE

GOVERNOUR & COUNCIL

WHEREAS some have lately presumed to Print and Disperse a Pamphlet (Entituled, Publick Occurrences, both Foreign and Domestick: Boston, Thursday, Septemb. 25th. 1690.) Without the least Privy or Countenance of Authority.

The Governour and Council having had the perusal of the said Pamphlet, and finding that therein is contained Reflections of a very high nature: As also sundry doubtful and uncertain Reports, do hereby manifest and declare their high Resentment and Disallowance of said Pamphlet, and Order that the same be Suppressed and called in; strictly forbidding any person or persons for the future to Set forth any thing in Print without Licence first obtained from those that are or shall be appointed by the Government to grant the same.

By Order of the Governour & Council.

Isaac Addington, Secy.

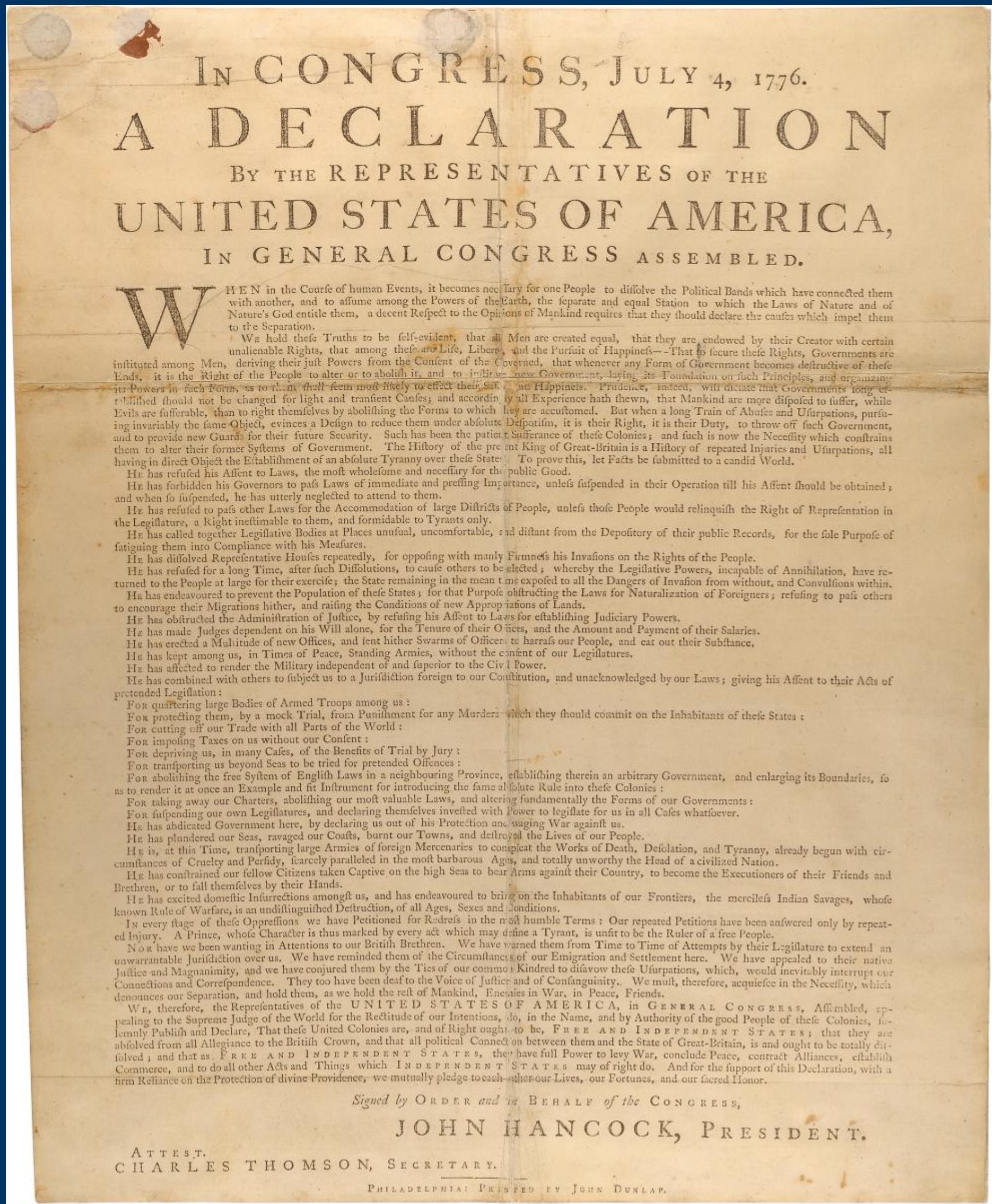
Boston, September 29th. 1690.

Titles.	Towns.	Publishers.	Titles.	Towns.	Publishers.
NEW HAMPSHIRE.			PENNSYLVANIA—continued.		
* New Hampshire Gazette	Portsmouth...	Daniel Fowle.	Pennsylvania Journal	Philadelphia..	W. & T. Bradford.
MASSACHUSETTS.			* Pennsylvania Packet	do	John Dunlap.
Massachusetts Gazette and News-Letter.	Boston	Margaret Draper.	† Pennsylvania Ledger	do	James Humphreys.
Boston Evening Post	do	T. & J. Fleet.	† Pennsylvania Evening Post	do	Benjamin Towne.
Boston Gazette	do	Edes & Gill.	† Pennsylvania Mercury	do	Story & Humphreys.
Massachusetts Gazette and Post-Boy	do	Green & Russell.	H. Miller's German Paper	do	Henry Miller.
* Massachusetts Spy	do	Isaiah Thomas.	C. Sower's German Paper	Germantown..	Christopher Sower.
Essex Gazette	Salem.....	S. & E. Hall.	English and German Paper.....	Lancaster....	Lahn, Albright & Stei- ner.
Essex Journal	Newburyport.	Lunt & Tinges.	MARYLAND.		
RHODE ISLAND.			Maryland Gazette	Annapolis	Fr. d. & Sam'l Green.
* Newport Mercury.....	Newport.....	Solomon Southwick.	Maryland Journal	Baltimore....	William Goddard.
* Providence Gazette	Providence ...	John Carter.	VIRGINIA.		
CONNECTICUT.			Virginia Gazette.....	Williamsburg.	Purdie & Dixon.
* Connecticut Journal.....	New Haven ..	T. & S. Green.	Virginia Gazette.....	do	William Rind.
* Connecticut Gazette.....	New London..	Timothy Green.	NORTH CAROLINA.		
* Connecticut Courant	Hartford.....	Ebenezer Watson	North Carolina Gazette.....	New Berne ...	James Davis.
Norwich Packet	Norwich	Robertson & Trumbell.	Cape Fear Mercury	Wilmington ..	Adam Boyd.
NEW YORK.			SOUTH CAROLINA.		
New York Mercury	New York....	Hugh Gaine.	South Carolina Gazette	Charleston....	Peter Timothy.
New York Journal	do	John Holt.	South Carolina and American General Gazette.	do	Robert Wells.
New York Gazetteer	do	James Rivington.	South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal.	do	Charles Crouch.
Albany Post-Boy	Albany	A. & J. Robertson.	GEORGIA.		
PENNSYLVANIA.			Georgia Gazette	Savannah....	James Johnston.

A star (*) prefixed indicates that they were continued in 1812. Those marked thus (†) commenced in January, 1775; those marked thus (‡) in April, 1775.

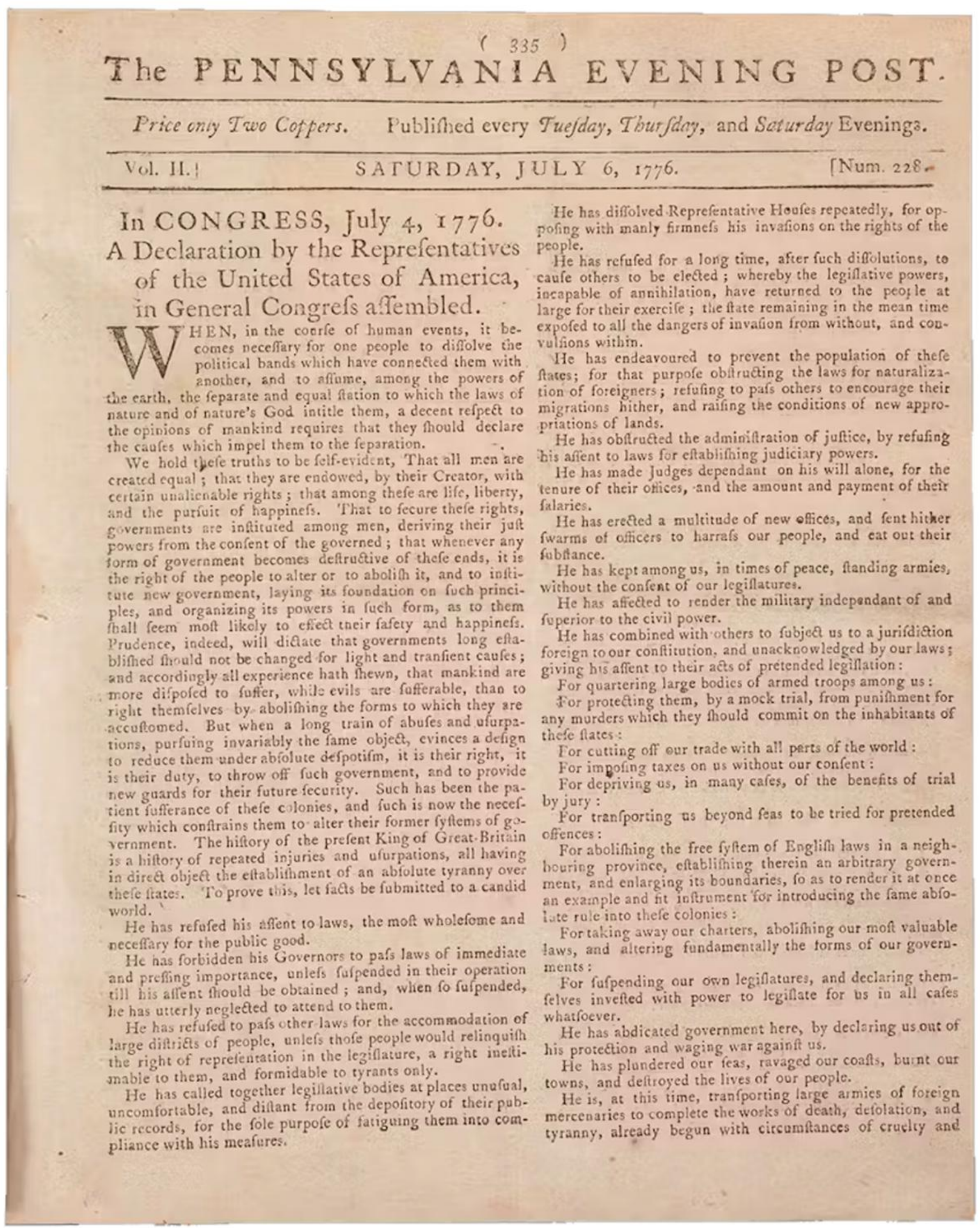
Newspapers in the American colonies in the 18th century

Printing the Declaration of Independence



Dunlap Broadside (left):
200 printed copies
made the night of July
4th or early on the 5th.
Those were sent out to
legislatures and militias
by order of Congress.

First newspaper
printing (right):
Benjamin Towne
printed it in the July 6
ed. of his Pennsylvania
Evening Post.



July 10-Aug 3: Printed in newspapers in most other colonies.

3rd week of August: Printed in several London and other UK papers.

By end of August: Printed all over the Continent.

Goddard Broadside: Jan. 18, 1777, at Baltimore, by Mary Katherine Goddard. Included names of all signers (right).

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.
THE UNANIMOUS
DECLARATION
OF THE
THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WHEN, in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's GOD entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the Causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their CREATOR, with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate, that Governments long established, should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former System of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

He has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them by long Sessions.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining, in the mean Time, exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and Convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

He has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance.

He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the Consent of our Legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution,

and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us;

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States;

For cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World;

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent;

For depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury;

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences;

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies;

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments;

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection, and waging War against us.

He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.

He is, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with Circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

He has constrained our Fellow-Citizens, taken Captive on the high Seas, to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction, of all Ages, Sexes, and Conditions.

In every Stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every Act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

Now have we been wanting in Attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time, of Attempts by their Legislatures to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our Connexions and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the Rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connexion between them and the State of Great-Britain, is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of Right do. And for the Support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honour.

John Hancock.

GEORGIA, { Buton Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, Geo. Walton.	VIRGINIA, { George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thos. Jefferson, Benja. Harrison, Thos. Nelson, jr. Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton.	DELAWARE, { Cesar Rodney, Geo. Read.	MASSACHUSETTS- BAY, { Saml. Adams, John Adams, Robt. Treat Paine, Ellbridge Gerry.
NORTH-CAROLINA, { Wm. Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn.	PENNSYLVANIA, { Robt. Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benja. Franklin, John Morton, Geo. Clymer, Thos. Smith, Geo. Taylor, James Wilson, Geo. Ross.	NEW-YORK, { Wm. Floyd, Phil. Livingston, Fran. Lewis, Lewis Morris.	RHODE-ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE, &c. { Steph. Hopkins, William Ellery.
SOUTH-CAROLINA, { Edward Rutledge, Thos. Heyward, junr. Thomas Lynch, junr. Arthur Middleton.	NEW-JERSEY, { Richd. Stockton, Jno. Witherspoon, Fran. Hopkinson, John Hart, Abra. Clark.	NEW-HAMPSHIRE, { Josiab Bartlett, Wm. Whipple, Matthew Thornton.	CONNECTICUT, { Roger Sherman, Saml. Huntington, Wm. Williams, Oliver Wolcott.
MARYLAND, { Samuel Chase, Wm. Paca, Thos. Stone, Charles Carroll, of Car- rollton.			

IN CONGRESS, JANUARY 18, 1777.
ORDERED,
THAT an authenticated Copy of the DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCY, with the Names of the MEMBERS of CONGRESS, subscribing the same, be sent to each of the UNITED STATES, and that they be desired to have the same put on RECORD.

By Order of CONGRESS,
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

Handwritten signatures: M. B. Thomson, John Hancock

MYERS COLL. 1
MS. DIV. NYPL