American Paper Mills, 1690–1832

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Appendix

Wholesale Stationers and Paper Merchants

Philadelphia

William Allen, merchant, ca. 1731. During this year Allen sold imported paper to Franklin in lots as large as 183 reams. He inherited a large fortune from his father and traded extensively on his own, no doubt supplying the Philadelphia market with a wide range of manufactured goods. Certainly he would have never considered himself a member of the paper trade, but he is mentioned here as a prime example of a colonial merchant who dealt in bulk quantities of paper. He later became mayor of Philadelphia and chief justice of Pennsylvania.1

Benjamin Franklin, printer, bookseller, and stationer, 1730–1748, in partnership with David Hall from 1748 to 1766, when Hall took over Franklin’s printing business. Franklin dealt in foreign and domestic paper, selling quantities as large as 50 reams to printers in Philadelphia, Boston, New York, Annapolis, Newport, New Bern, N.C., Charleston, S.C., and Jamaica.2

David Hall, printer, bookseller, and stationer, 1748–1772, in partnership with Benjamin Franklin, but issuing catalogues of imported stationery under his own name as early as 1756. He imported writings from at least two London firms. After he died in 1772, his son William Hall continued to deal in books and stationery, “wholesale and retail.”3

William Bradford III, printer, bookseller, and stationer, 1742–1777. Invoices of imported books and stationery included quantities of paper as large as 184 reams.4

Joshua Gilpin, paper store, 1787–1837. Gilpin inherited a storehouse at 149 South Front Street from his father and used it for various mercantile ventures until he went into the papermaking business at the Brandywine Paper Mill (Del. Mill 1) in 1787. In 1803 he and his brother Thomas Gilpin took out insurance of $1,500 on the building, a brick structure three stories high, 19 feet wide and 40 feet deep. They bought rags and sold paper there until the failure of their firm in the 1820s. They then rented the building to the new owners of the mill, who were still doing business at this location in 1838.7

William Young, Delaware Paper Mill Ware-House, ca. 1792–1805. Also active as a bookseller, printer, and proprietor of Del. Mill 5, 1795–1814, and Pa. Mill 84, ca. 1814–1829. He was collecting rags for local paper mills as early as 1786. He sold the Delaware Paper Mill Ware-House to William Bonnell and George Fulton in 1805. Members of the Fulton family were proprietors of Pa. Mill 73.8

Isaac L. Pearson, bookseller and stationer, ca. 1795–1821, in partnership with a member of the Levis family, 1796–1798. Represented Pa. Mill 49.9

John Matthews, paper dealer, 1797–ca. 1823. Proprietor of Pa. Mill 27.10


Caldecleugh & Thomas, stationers, 1805–1819. They owned a paper-hanging manufactory in Baltimore and a stationery store in Philadelphia, which they insured for $12,000. They sold two quires of imperial drawing paper to the Carey firm in 1815.13
Austin & Chardon (S. Austin and Anthony Chardon), paper and stationery warehouse, 1806–1807.14

Bennet & Walton (Joseph Bennet, Titus Bennet, and Joseph Walton), booksellers and stationers, 1806–1836. Represented several mills in the Philadelphia vicinity, including Pa. Mill 113. They acquired a mill near the city sometime before 1823, and they bought N.J. Mill 39 in 1836.15

Levis & Weaver (Isaac Levis II and William Weaver), stationers, 1809–1813. Probably distributed the products of one or more Levis mills in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Weaver left in 1813, and Levis continued on his own until around 1823. He appears in Philadelphia directories as a papermaker and stationer, 1813–1820.16

Orth, Cook & Co. (Henry Orth and John Cook), paper warehouse, 1810–1811. Henry Orth ordered moulds for the Chester County papermaker James Steele.17

John T. Sullivan, stationer, bookbinder, and proprietor of the Philadelphia Paper Warehouse, 1810–1821.18

James Y. Humphreys, manufacturer of playing cards and paper hangings, printer, and stationer, 1810–1832. Ordered moulds for several papermakers in the Philadelphia area. Sold cards and printing paper to the Carey firm.19

Duane & Levis (William John Duane (also William Duane Jr.) and William Levis II), paper warehouse, 1811. Probably distributed the products of one or more Levis mills in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Duane was also active as a printer and bookseller. He ordered moulds from the Sellers firm, as did his father, William Duane, printer, publisher, stationer, and editor of the Philadelphia Aurora.20


Charles Magarge, commission paper and rag warehouse, 1830–ca. 1880. Beginning in partnership with his brother William H. Magarge, Charles Magarge was a major supplier to the Carey firm in the 1830s. He dealt with mills as far away as N.J. Mill 46, but as his business grew, he obtained his own source of supply in 1844, when he converted a grist mill in Germantown to paper manufacture. The Magarge brothers are frequently confused with the Megargee brothers, who were also active in the Philadelphia paper trade.24

Dull & White (Charles Dull and White), paper warehouse, 1832–1835, “for the sale of Writing, Printing and Colored Paper, also Binders, Box and Bonnet Boards.” Dealt with Pa. Mills 41, 49, and 82.25

Wilkinson & McCoy, wholesale paper and rag store, ca. 1832.26

Boston

Daniel Henchman, merchant, bookbinder, and bookseller. Bought six cases of paper from the London wholesale stationer Stephen Theodore Janssen in 1736. This consignment included fine pott, fools-cap, and post writings, 295 reams in all. Partner in Mass. Mill 1.27

Thomas Hancock, merchant and bookseller. Imported paper from London and Amsterdam, ca. 1737. Partner in Mass. Mill 1.28

Jeremiah Smith Boies, clerk of a committee convened in 1795 “to devise a Plan for the Deposit of paper in a Store from which any Paper Maker may take out part of its value in Cash upon allowing a certain Premium to Store keeper advancing the money.” Proprietor of Mass. Mill 3.29

John West, bookseller and stationer, ca. 1796–1820. Proprietor of Mass. Mill 73 in Taunton from 1809
until 1820 and then, perhaps briefly, partner in that enterprise with Richard Park. While residing in Taunton, he managed the Boston bookstore in partnership with various individuals, including Lemuel Blake. 30

William Parker, dealer in paper and manufacturer, ca. 1817–1831. Proprietor of or partner in Mass. Mills 6, 19, 23, 30, and 31 and N.H. Mill 13. Represented Conn. Mill 10. In 1817 and 1819 he published advertisements containing itemized accounts of his inventory, including writings, printings, wrappings, board, rags, felts, screws for presses, cotton yarn, goat skins, and sheep skins. At one point he had a total of 2,105 reams in stock. 31

Grant & Daniell (Moses Grant II and Otis Daniell), dealers in rags and paper, ca. 1830–1856. Proprietor of or partner in Mass. Mills 6 and 21, Grant was dealing in paper at his Union Street store as early as 1820, when he published an advertisement listing part of his inventory, including writings, printings, wrappings, hanging paper, rags, upholstery articles, and various types of board. He also represented N.H. Mill 10 at that time. In 1830 Otis Daniell joined the firm, which was doing business as Grant, Daniell & Co. by 1847. He retired in 1855 or 1856 and sold his share in the business to Samuel Dennis Warren, whereupon the firm was reorganized as Grant, Warren & Co. Reorganized again as S. D. Warren & Co., it operated mills in Massachusetts and Maine, two of them now part of the Sappi global conglomerate. 32

Andrew J. Allen, paper store, ca. 1823. Proprietor of Mass. Mill 38. 33

Lemuel Blake, paper warehouse, 1824–1832. 34

Jesse P. Hurlbert, commission paper warehouse, 1832. In a printed circular addressed to members of the trade, Hurlbert announced that he had gone into business on 1 October 1832 and that he would be selling “American Manufactured Paper.” One copy was preserved by the proprietors of Mass. Mill 60. By 1839 he had left Boston and was running a paper store in New York City. 35

New York City

Hugh Gaine, printer, bookseller, and stationer, 1752–1799. He sold imported papers in various sizes “by the Ream, Quire or Sheet” and bought rags as early as 1764, probably for shipment to mills in the Philadelphia area. Partner in N.Y. Mill 7. 36

Samuel Campbell, printer, bookseller, and stationer, 1786–1834. Proprietor of N.J. Mill 9, ca. 1789–1834, after 1819 in partnership with his son John Campbell. He solicited rags and advertised the products of the mill in a catalogue of books for sale published in 1794. J. & S. Campbell closed down their bookstore around 1825 but remained in business as paper merchants. After John Campbell died in 1882, the firm was carried on by one of his partners, who supplied plate papers and printings to New York book and magazine publishers. 37

William Durell, printer, bookseller, and stationer, 1786–1816, 1820–1822. He may have dealt in paper on a wholesale basis only while he was proprietor of N.Y. Mill 4, but he purchased moulds a year after that mill burned down. 38

Naphtali Judah, auctioneer, bookbinder, bookseller, and stationer, ca. 1795–1815. He advertised for sale a one-vat paper mill eighteen miles from the city and announced that he could have paper made to order at Mass. Mill 22 or 23. The Sellers firm made for him a single mould watermarked with the name of a patent medicine, “Poudre d’Ailhaud.” 39


Benjamin Onderdonk, paper store, 1800. Proprietor of N.Y. Mill 7. 41

Davis & Dunham (Matthew L. Davis and David Dunham), paper warehouse, ca. 1800–1801. They were the proprietors of N.J. Mill 11, but they also claimed to stock the products of eight other mills. 42

W. & C. Valentine (William Valentine and Caleb Valentine), paper merchants, ca. 1805–1822, trading as W. Valentine & Sons from 1812 to 1822. Proprietors of N.Y. Mill 7. 43
James Eastburn, bookseller and stationer, ca. 1808–1828. In 1808 he contracted with the Gilpins to be the exclusive agent for the writing papers they made at Del. Mill 1. He also carried printings made at other mills, as well as a line of imported British papers.44


George Folliet Hopkins, paper store, ca. 1814. Partner in N.J. Mill 28 and also active in New York as a printer, bookseller, publisher, and stationer, 1797–1842. He was probably dealing in paper as early as 1808, when he was operating the mill as a member of the firm Hopkins & Bayard, which had a bookstore in New York.46

Ichabod Hoit, commission paper warehouse, ca. 1818–1831. Originally the proprietor of a printers’ warehouse, he started a sideline in the paper trade “by the advice of the profession.” Represented N.Y. Mill 47 and advertised for sale a one-vat mill not far from the city. He sold papermakers’ supplies, such as indigo, twine, moulds, and felting.47

T. & J. Swords {Thomas and James Swords}, paper merchants, ca. 1818. Briefly represented N.J. Mill 28, at one point having in stock 500 reams of medium printing manufactured at that mill along with 20 reams of blotting medium, 20 reams of writing medium, and 20 reams of writing demy. Also active as printers and booksellers, 1790–1831.48

Rogers & Post, merchants?, ca. 1818. Represented Conn. Mill 43.49

Robert Donaldson, paper warehouse, 1819–1835. Proprietor of N.J. Mill 33.50

Jonathan Seymour, printer and commission paper warehouse, 1819–1842. Seymour started in the printing business in 1803 and seems to have done well in that trade, although he had to face increasingly stiff competition in his vicinity. At first a sideline, the paper warehouse was sufficiently successful that he closed down his printing office around 1831. He represented many of the mills serving the New York market: Conn. Mills 8 and 10, Mass. Mills 47 and 58, N.J. Mill 28, N.Y. Mill 17, and Pa. Mill 21. The Berkshire papermaker Zenas Crane named a son after him as a mark of gratitude for their mutually rewarding business relationship. In 1820 he published an advertisement naming four of his suppliers and listing some of the goods he kept in stock, including medium and royal printings, demy and medium writings, copperplate papers, and super royal newsprint. His son Melancthon L. Seymour joined the business in 1833.51

Richard Taylor, paper warehouse, 1821–1832. Also active as a brewer and grocer.52

Nathaniel R. Phillips, paper store, ca. 1826. Partner in N.J. Mill 37, also active as a cabinetmaker 1821–1825 and 1832–1833.53

Joseph Smart, paper store, 1826–1830. Proprietor of N.Y. Mill 10. Also proprietor of a junk store, which might have supplied papermakers with raw materials for board manufacture.54

William Dunlap, paper dealer, 1831–1836.55

George Peacock, commission paper warehouse, 1831–1838. Active as a paper stainer, 1821–1825.56

Horatio Wilkes, dealer in paper, stationery, and printing materials on commission, ca. 1831–1832.57

Hartford

Hudson & Goodwin {Barzillai Hudson and George Goodwin}, booksellers and stationers, 1779–1815. Proprietors of Conn. Mills 6 and 10. One of their bookstore catalogues contains a list of stationery.58

Nathaniel Patten, bookbinder, bookseller, and stationer, ca. 1781–1804. Proprietor of Mass. Mill 47. He advertised for rags, which could be delivered either to his mill or to his store in Hartford. He was selling cartridge paper in 1804.59

Providence

Samuel Thurber Jr. & Sons {Samuel Thurber Jr., Martin Thurber, Edward Thurber, Samuel


Oliver Peirce, stationer, ca. 1815. Represented Conn. Mill 42.


Caleb Cushing, paper seller, ca. 1826 and ca. 1831 in Pawtucket. At that later date he formed the firm of Cushing & Ide in partnership with Hartford Ide.

Thomas S. Mowry & Co., paper dealers, ca. 1830–1831. Represented R.I. Mill 4, owned or formerly owned by the newspaper publisher Daniel Mowry III, who sold his "paper business on Canal St." to Thomas S. Mowry & Co. in 1830.

Baltimore


Warner & Hanna (William Warner and Andrew Hanna), booksellers, stationers, and printers, 1800–1812. They represented Pa. Mill 59, ca. 1807–1817, and were advertising printing paper in 1808. After Hanna died in 1812, Warner continued on at the same address until his death in 1824.

Thomas Meeteer, bookseller and stationer, 1801–1812, in various partnerships with his sons Samuel and William Meeteer. A farmer in Chester County, Pennsylvania, he apparently had no experience in the paper trade or the book trade before he established Del. Mill 2 around 1789. His son-in-law John Armstrong and Samuel Meeteer were managing the store in 1804. After Thomas Meeteer died in 1812, Samuel and William continued to sell books and stationery, distributing the products of Del. Mill 2 and also Md. Mills 23 and 24. They bought rags at the warehouse and sold papermaking supplies as agents of the Sellers firm.

Abner Neal, bookseller and stationer, 1804–1824. He obtained several pairs of moulds from the Sellers firm between 1817 and 1821, including one pair with the watermark of Md. Mill 19.


Lawrence Greatrake Jr., paper merchant, ca. 1819–1822. Son of the foreman of Del. Mill 1, Greatrake was foreman of Md. Mill 10 for a few years before its owners failed in 1817. He then rented the mill and established a paper warehouse in partnership with A. R. Palmer, who quit in 1819, leaving Greatrake in charge of the business. Greatrake carried a complete line of wrappings, printings, and writings, including no. 1 vellum and laid foolscap, which he offered to sell at half the going price of British imports. Of his large and varied stock, only 79 reams and 4 bundles remained in 1822, when the Baltimore county sheriff seized his assets and put them up for sale to compensate his creditors.
He then quit the paper trade and became a Baptist minister.\textsuperscript{74}

\textbf{New Haven}

\textbf{Increase Cooke \& Co.,} booksellers and stationers, ca. 1802–1814. Proprietors of or partners in Conn. Mill 26. Advertisements at the end of \textit{The Guide to Domestic Happiness} (New Haven: From Sidney’s Press, for Increase Cooke \& Co., 1804) state that they were selling “Stationary articles in common use, wholesale and retail, on the very lowest terms.”\textsuperscript{75}

\textbf{Walter, Austin \& Co.} [Joel Walter, Oliver Steele, and William W. Austin], publishers, booksellers, paper warehouse, ca. 1810–1811. In 1810 they announced that they represented “several Paper Mills,” which could make to order writings and other types of paper.\textsuperscript{76}

\textbf{Washington, D.C.}

\textbf{Roger Chew Weightman,} printer and stationer, ca. 1807–1816. He purchased moulds for W.Va. Mill 1 and used that mill’s products in at least one of his imprints. He ordered quantities of paper large enough that he had some of it watermarked with his initials. At one point he had in stock 1,100 reams of foolscap, 650 reams of quarto post, 90 reams of folio post, 320 reams of royal printing, 180 reams of medium printing, wrapping papers, cartridge papers, and an assortment of drawing papers. He had a full range of writings from imperial down to foolscap, several sizes available in both English and American varieties.\textsuperscript{77}

\textbf{U. Brown,} stationer, ca. 1818. He announced in a newspaper advertisement that he had just received a shipment of English writing and drawing papers and that he expected “several hundred reams” of American writings to be delivered shortly.\textsuperscript{78}

\textbf{Garret Anderson,} commission merchant, paper dealer, and stationer, ca. 1831–1832. In addition to blank books and other stationery products for use in government offices, Anderson kept in stock “a constant supply” of newsprint, medium printings, printers’ supplies, and binders’ boards.\textsuperscript{79}

\textbf{Cincinnati}

\textbf{Kirby \& Fosdick,} paper dealers, 1818.\textsuperscript{80}


\textbf{Dement, Graham \& Co.,} paper dealers, 1820. Represented Ohio Mill 4. One of their advertisements lists a complete line of that mill’s products, including printings, writings, and wrappings in various sizes, as well as binders’ boards and bonnet boards.\textsuperscript{82}

\textbf{Sprigman \& Yeatman,} paper dealers, 1823. Represented Ohio Mill 7.\textsuperscript{83}

\textbf{James Graham \& Co.,} paper dealers, ca. 1823. Proprietors of Ohio Mill 8.\textsuperscript{84}

\textbf{William Wilson \& Co.,} paper dealers, 1827.\textsuperscript{85}

\textbf{Alfred McDaniels,} paper warehouse, ca. 1828. Proprietor of Ind. Mill 1 and represented Ohio Mills 6 and 7.\textsuperscript{86}

\textbf{A. B. Roff,} bookseller, stationer, blank book and paper warehouse, 1830–1831.\textsuperscript{87}

\textbf{Notes}

2. Miller 1974, xxxviii–xxxix; Bidwell 2000, 181; Eddy 1928, 1:18, 2:45, 52, 56, 64, 72, 94, 111.
5. Brown 1949, 392; Winans 1981, no. 122; Sellers Moulds Finished, 7 July 1792: medium; Sellers Moulds Ordered, 26 Sept. 1810: Spanish foolscap, watermarked ALVA.
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22. Brown 1949, 396; AAD 1831, 66; AAD 1832, 74; Samuel Eckstein to James M. Willcox, 20 May and 15 Sept. 1834, Willcox Papers; Burke 1847, 87.

23. AAD 1832, 214.


25. AAD 1832, 186; Barker 1926a, 11; Sellers Order Book, 31 Jan. 1834, 9 Oct. 1834, and 20 May 1835.


41. McKay 1942, 56.

42. Gottesman 1965, 291.


44. McKay 1942, 26; Huttner 1993, 80; Gilpin letter Book, 4 and 8 Jan. 1808.

45. McKay 1942, 214.


49. Taintor Papers. This firm is not listed in McKay 1942.
68. Silver 1953, 54–55; Sellers Moulds Ordered, 5 May 1817: double cap vellum.
70. Silver 1953, 43; Sellers Moulds Ordered, 23 May 1817: wove super royal; Sellers Letter Book, 26 Sept. 1821.
74. Samuel Jackson, comp., The Baltimore Directory, Corrected up to June, 1819 (Baltimore: Printed by Richard J. Matchett, 1819); Baltimore Patriot, 14 May 1819, 3, 18 Apr. 1821, 2, and 3 Aug. 1822, 3; History of Baptist Churches in Maryland Connected with the Maryland Baptist Union Association (Baltimore: Printed and Published by J. F. Weishampel Jr., 1885), 60–61.
81. Kayser 1823, 155; AAD 1832, 46.
82. [Frankfort, Ky.] Argus of Western America, 26 Oct. 1820, 5.
I am very grateful to Vincent Golden for this reference.
83. Kayser 1823, 155; AAD 1832, 46.
86. Weeks 1916, 206. I have not been able to verify Weeks’s account in other sources.
87. AAD 1831, 40; Sutton 1961, 336.