

## *Government Printing in Massachusetts-Bay, 1700-1750*

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FOR the historian of printing, the shortcomings of bureaucracy are its virtues. In the detailed records which officialdom not only delights in preparing but also wallows in preserving, there is a range of information unavailable in any other place. Day-by-day journal entries, communications, bills—all spanning centuries—remain marshalled on the shelves. Although some records of unofficial organizations or business firms do exist for limited periods, it is only in government archives that series of great length can be studied and analyzed. What records management engineer, if his species were developed a century ago, would have saved eighteenth-century bills for printing? Would he have realized that a bill is often more than a mere request for payment, that it may be the only statement extant of the kind of work, the price per unit, and the amount of work done? For the historian and bibliographer, such a bill is significant and never more so than in times of rapidly fluctuating currency. In the Massachusetts Archives, many eighteenth-century bills have been preserved, which, on examination with other documents, serve to clarify the relation between government and printer during the first half of that century.<sup>1</sup>

One might think that the government bought all of its

<sup>1</sup> For much aid in the examination of these papers, I am indebted to Mr. Leo Flaherty, Senior Archives Assistant, Massachusetts Archives.

printing directly from the so-called public printer or official printer, but the bills show that printing was often purchased through booksellers, or, to be more precise, the bookseller-publishers. Furthermore, the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay during this period sometimes had more than one official printer simultaneously: the Governor and Council had their "Printer" and the House of Representatives had its "Printer."

From 1694 until his death in 1732, the "Printer to His Excellency the Governour and Council" was, of course, Bartholomew Green, whom Isaiah Thomas called "the most distinguished printer of that period in this country."<sup>2</sup> Between 1695 and 1702, John Allen, Green's partner, bore the same title, but only as his associate. After Green's death, the Council announced formally on January 4, 1732/3:

His Excellency having proposed Mr. John Draper as Printer to the Governour and Council in the room of his Father in Law Mr. Bartholomew Green Deceased, the Board signified their approbation thereof, and the said John Draper was appointed Printer to the Governor [*sic*] & Council accordingly.<sup>3</sup>

As printers to the Governor and Council, Green and Draper issued the various acts and laws as they were passed by the General Court as well as proclamations, warrants, and other documents.

The House of Representatives, often at loggerheads with the Council, supervised its own printing much more carefully. When ordering the printing of an Election Sermon in 1715, it appointed a committee "to agree for the Printing thereof, at the most reasonable Rate they can."<sup>4</sup> This

<sup>2</sup> Isaiah Thomas, *The History of Printing in America* (Albany, 1874), I, 90-91.

<sup>3</sup> Massachusetts Archives, Executive Records of the Province Council, hereinafter cited as Council, IX, 396.

<sup>4</sup> *Journals of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, 1715-* (Boston, 1919- ), hereinafter cited as *Journals*, I, 25.

procedure was followed in many of its orders for printing. Because of Governor Dudley's charge that little or nothing for the good of the Province had been accomplished during the sessions, the House agreed, on June 21, 1715, "to Print their Journal of the present Sessions, and Desired the Representatives of Boston to take care that the same might be Seasonably done."<sup>5</sup> Nine days later, a formal motion to this effect was passed.<sup>6</sup> On August 25, 1715, the committee appointed to negotiate printing the Journal reported that Bartholomew Green "offered to do the same, and all the other Printing directed by the Government, for the space of Seven Years next coming; and to furnish each Member of this Court, with a Copy of the said Votes, free of charge, on each *Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday*, of the several Sessions, during that Term, upon his being Allowed *Thirty Pounds per Annum* for his Service."<sup>7</sup> The House, after accepting this offer, sent it to the Council for concurrence. Although the Council did not act before the session ended, the House ordered that "the Votes of this House in the present Session be Imprinted upon the foot of the Agreement with Mr. Green."<sup>8</sup> Thereafter, the House voted annually to print the Journal, usually in a motion which included the stipulation that a committee of representatives, usually from Boston, oversee the printing and that there be one copy for each member of the House and another for the town he represented—an edition of approximately 250 copies in 1723. Even after such ceremonies, the printing of the Journal was not always easily achieved. The Journal for December 3-10, 1719, appeared with the following imprint: "*Boston*, Printed by *N. Boone*, at the Request and Appointment of the Representatives of *Boston*; Mr. *Bartholomew*

<sup>5</sup> *Journals*, I, 44-45.

<sup>6</sup> *Journals*, I, 65.

<sup>7</sup> *Journals*, I, 70.

<sup>8</sup> *Journals*, I, 74.

*Green*, the former Printer to the House, Refusing to Print the same." Evidently fearful of antagonizing the Council, *Green* printed the Journal only for May 25-30, 1720; during the following three years it was printed by *Boone*. The latter, however, lacked *Green's* craftsmanship; as *Ford* points out, "the errors are much more numerous with *Boone* and they are errors of the printer."<sup>9</sup> As a result, the Council sent a message to the House in 1721 declaring that some of its communications were either "rendered Unintelligible or liable to Misconstruction" and requesting that "what goes down from the Governour or Council may be truly Printed."<sup>10</sup> The House replied by asking that all resolutions be in writing and by expressing its desire that "all proper care be had that the Votes be truly Printed." However, the continued appearance of the Journal disturbed the Council to such an extent that, in 1723, it requested the House to cease publication which "has been very prejudicial to the Interest of this Province, with respect to the Operations of the War with the *Indians*, and other Publick Affairs of the Province, besides the considerable Charge it brings on the Province."<sup>11</sup> The House, of course, refused to desist, but ordered that votes relating to the Indian War be omitted in the printed Journal.

*Boone's* bills for printing have not been located, but it is apparent that some members of the House also thought the Province could not afford a printed Journal. On June 5, 1722, the vote to print the Journal was defeated. When it was reconsidered the next day, it passed, accompanied by the appointment of a committee "to enquire of the several Printers in the Town, what they will take by the Sheet for Printing the Votes of the House, and Report which of

<sup>9</sup> *Journals*, II, [vii].

<sup>10</sup> *Journals*, III, 105.

<sup>11</sup> *Journals*, V, 235.

them will do it best and cheapest." After comparing prices, the committee reported that Bartholomew Green and Samuel Kneeland would print the Journal "best and cheapest."<sup>12</sup> Thus Green and Kneeland, his son-in-law and former apprentice, became printers to the House while Green remained printer to the Governor and Council. Whether sheer business ability or its combination with political influence enabled Green to retain so much of the government business cannot now be determined. Some day, it is hoped, a monograph will provide an adequate study of this craftsman and highly respected citizen.

Green and Kneeland continued as printers to the House until 1729 when they were replaced by Thomas Fleet. Three years later, the House again invited bids, with the result that the members found themselves to be judges of typography as well as legislators:

Capt. *Goddard* from the Committee appointed to treat with the Printers about the Journal of the House, Reported, That they had discoursed with the several Printers of *Boston* thereon; and he laid down on the Table three printed Sheets of different Types or Characters, and the House having viewed them, *Voted*, That the Journal should be printed of the middle Character of the three, and ordered the Committee to inform Mr. *Fleet* the last Printer that he should have the preference of printing the Votes if he would do it from the said Character at the same price he did the former Votes per Sheet, or otherwise in proportion from the largest Character, but if Mr. *Fleet* did not accept of the Offer, then the Committee by Vote were impowred to agree with the Owner of the said second Character for printing the Votes as aforesaid.<sup>13</sup>

Fleet did not accept; Green and Kneeland regained the printing of the Journal. After Green's death, Kneeland continued alone except for the period 1742-1749 when he and Timothy Green, nephew of Bartholomew, were "Printers to the Honourable House of Representatives."

<sup>12</sup> *Journals*, IV, 12.

<sup>13</sup> *Journals*, XI, 13.

In 1735, the ruinous inflation of currency sent Kneeland to the House to petition successfully for a raise in his price to forty shillings a sheet. Three years later, the House, after another committee sought bids, voted to allow Kneeland fourteen shillings and four pence, new tenor, per sheet, and by 1750 he was getting eight pounds, old tenor, per sheet. This increasingly dangerous financial situation may have been the reason for the vote, on July 2, 1745, to stop printing the Journal. On July 23, the House refused to reconsider, and it was not until February 13, 1746, that a vote to print the Journal was passed. In June of the same year, the House approved the distribution of a set to each town only after it had been assured the cost would be at the rate of the previous year.

Thus, two of the most important series of the period, the *Acts and Laws* and the *Journal of the House of Representatives*, were printed by the Printer to the Governor and Council and by the Printer to the House, respectively. From time to time, however, compilations of the laws were needed, a requirement which was not always easily fulfilled. A compilation of the laws had a much greater potential sale than sessional issues and the General Court quickly took advantage of this fact. For the privilege of publishing the 1699 compilation, Michael Perry and Benjamin Eliot gave the General Court fifty free copies and furnished a hundred and fifty additional copies at the production cost.<sup>14</sup> When he issued the 1714 compilation, Eliot charged the Province 256/3/7 for 197 copies, but he deducted £45 for "fifty books given for the Copy."<sup>15</sup> As the time approached for another edition, some reluctant members of the Court fought a rather successful delaying action. In 1721, a motion for a new edition was defeated in the

<sup>14</sup> Council, III, 90.

<sup>15</sup> Council, VI, 261.

House. After further debate the House did vote the preparation of an index, an action to which the Council concurred with amendment. A year later, in June, the House voted for a new edition as well as for the distribution to the towns of acts passed since the 1714 compilation. In January, 1722/3, a committee appointed to negotiate with Eliot about the proposed edition, brought in his response: "*Benjamin Eliot*, Bookseller, proposing to the House, That if he may have a Privilege of Printing the Laws of this Province for Twenty Years exclusive of all others, he will supply the several Towns of the Province and Members of the General Court with Two Hundred and Thirty Bound, for the Sum of l. 150."<sup>16</sup> The House quickly approved this offer, but the Council, for reasons unrecorded, did not concur. Again, in the following year, the House voted a new impression and appointed a committee to collect bids. This time Nicholas Boone submitted the most attractive offer, whereupon the House ordered: "That upon the said *Boone's* delivering into the Secretaries Office Two Hundred & Fifty Law Books well bound in Leather (One whereof to be to and for the Use of each Town in this Province, and One for every Member of this Court) the said *Nicholas Boone* shall have and receive out of the Publick Treasury, the Sum of *One Hundred & Fifty Pounds*, and shall have the Sole Priviledge of printing them for Twenty Years to come."<sup>17</sup> This proposal, too, was stopped in Council. Nothing more happened for two years. Then the House tried again, declaring that "this House is informed that the last Impression of the Laws of the Province is out, and not any of the Law Books to be had of the Stationers compleat."<sup>18</sup> The fact that the Council did concur in this instance suggests that its procrastina-

<sup>16</sup> *Journals*, IV, 182.

<sup>17</sup> *Journals*, V, 96-97.

<sup>18</sup> *Journals*, VI, 230.

tion may have been urged by Benjamin Eliot who wanted a delay until his stock was exhausted. But by this time the need was so great that in 1724 John Baskett of London published a compilation of the laws to 1719. Soon plans went forward; committee members were appointed to prepare the text as well as arrange for and supervise the printing. In 1726, a new edition appeared for which the House resolved that "the Sum of *Four Hundred & Twenty Pounds* be allowed and paid out of the Publick Treasury to Mr. *Benjamin Eliot* in Consideration of his furnishing and supplying the Order of this Court with Three Hundred and Forty Law Books of the late Impression, including Sixty Books, which the said Mr. *Eliot* allows the Court for the Copy."<sup>19</sup> Both of Eliot's editions, 1714 and 1726, were printed by Green.

The next compilation, that of 1742, encountered even greater obstacles. First approved by the House on June 24, 1734, the proposal for a new edition was rejected by the Council two days later.<sup>20</sup> When the next session began, Benjamin Eliot, who probably had heard that the motion would be reintroduced, sent a memorial to the House "shewing that he has a large number of the latest Impression of the Province Laws remaining by him unsold, that he gave Seventy Books to the Order of the Court for the Copy of said Impression; praying that a new Impression may not be taken off, which if it should, would be greatly to his damage."<sup>21</sup> Eliot, it should be noted, increased by ten the number of copies he gave to the House—an error which can be attributed to carelessness since he certainly knew the terms of the previous edition were in print. His memorial nevertheless effectively quashed any further efforts during

<sup>19</sup> *Journals*, VII, 211.

<sup>20</sup> Legislative Records of the Province Council, hereinafter cited as Legislative Records, XVI, 36.

<sup>21</sup> *Journals*, XIII, 82.



the session. At the session following, the House again voted for a new compilation only to have its motion returned by the Council with a message that Benjamin Eliot informed the Council that because of his large stock still on hand, he would lose a great deal of money.<sup>22</sup> The House, refusing to reconsider, sent notice of its refusal to the Council where, as would be expected, the vote was nonconcurrent.<sup>23</sup> This pattern of a vote by the House for a new edition and noncurrence by the Council was repeated in June, 1737; January, 1737/8; December, 1738; June, 1739; March, 1739/40; and July, 1740. Between September, 1740, and July, 1741, House and Council could not agree on the contents of the new edition nor the method of preparing it. At long last, in August, 1741, they came to terms and, seven years after its first projection, the edition was approved. In planning the publication, the Court authorized the Committee "in their Agreement with the Printer, to allow him the sole Priviledge of printing and vending such new Impression during a Term not exceeding fifteen Years from the present Time; and with Relation to the Person to be employed, that it be recommended to them to give the Preference (*cæteris paribus*) to the Printer for this House."<sup>24</sup> They did; Kneeland & Green printed it, paying £130 for the privilege.<sup>25</sup>

Another long series of government publications consists of those often cataloged but seldom read Election Sermons. Council and House alternated in choosing the annual preacher, the House deciding for odd-numbered years. After the minister chosen by the House preached his sermon, a committee usually was elected to express the thanks of the House and to request a copy "for the Press." The

<sup>22</sup> *Journals*, XIV, 73.

<sup>23</sup> *Legislative Records*, XVI, 349.

<sup>24</sup> *Journals*, XIX, 58.

<sup>25</sup> Massachusetts Archives, hereinafter cited as Arc., CCXLVI, 210.

Council probably followed a similar procedure in alternate years. In the early part of the eighteenth century, size of edition depended upon reception of the sermon. The order to pay Samuel Sewall, Jr.'s, bill of 6/3/- for Joseph Belcher's 1701 sermon states that the five hundred copies "were ordered to be printed at the publick charge and have been distributed to the several Towns,"<sup>26</sup> while, in the following year, Nicholas Boone charged £5 for one hundred copies of Increase Mather's sermon "Printed according to order."<sup>27</sup> It is interesting to note that the Council voted Boone only 4/3/4 in payment,<sup>28</sup> a cost consciousness which is also occasionally apparent in the House. An example of this can be seen in the specific directions issued for Jeremiah Shepard's 1715 sermon: the committee was appointed "to agree for the Printing thereof, at the most reasonable Rate they can, and to Reserve One of the Books for each of the Members of this Court, and of the Ministers of the several Towns, and to present the Author with Thirty."<sup>29</sup>

Although these Election Sermons were printed by the government printers, they were, with a few exceptions, billed to the government not by the printer but by the bookseller who published them. Thus the charge of the bookseller included paper, printing, folding, and stitching, as well as covering some of the copies in marbled paper. In one instance, the bill for John Rogers' 1706 sermon, Benjamin Eliot attached Bartholomew Green's bill for printing the sermon—3½ sheets at 22s per sheet.<sup>30</sup> Despite the fact that Green's bill was made out to the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay, Eliot submitted, and collected for, the charge.<sup>31</sup> Furthermore, whenever the bookseller sold any

<sup>26</sup> Council, III, 245.

<sup>27</sup> Arc., LVIII, 236a.

<sup>28</sup> Council, III, 394; Legislative Records, VII, 354.

<sup>29</sup> Journals, I, 25.

<sup>30</sup> Arc., LVIII, 249.

<sup>31</sup> Arc., LVIII, 250a.

copies, the Province received credit for the amount.<sup>32</sup> By assuming responsibility for the production and distribution of these sermons, the bookseller evidently relieved the government printers of the function of publishing—work which they did not wish to do or were not equipped to do. Because the bills of these booksellers provide information about the size of edition as well as various costs, others are summarized in Table I.

In addition to Election Sermons, the General Court also ordered the printing of particularly impressive Boston Lectures, sermons on the deaths of Queen Anne, George I, Thomas Hollis, and Samuel Holden, Foxcroft's sermon on the earthquake of 1727, as well as other occasional homilies. For these, similar publication methods were employed: copy was requested, then printed for the General Court, and distributed by a bookseller. In 1706/7, for example, the Council voted that the committee appointed print the Lectures "at the best Rate they can; The Province to take off One Hundred of each at six Pence per Piece."<sup>33</sup> One bill, submitted in June, 1704, shows the provision for author's copies:

To Samuel Phillips

	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>
To 4 Dozen & 2 Fast Sermons per Mr. Willard & Danforth To Mr. Willard	£2	1 8
To 4 Dozen & 2 Ditto to Mr. Danforth	£2	1 8
To 115 Ditto to His Excellency & Council & Representatives &cetera @ 10d per peice	£4	15 10
	<hr/>	
	£8	19 2 <sup>34</sup>

Sermons of more popular appeal appeared in larger editions and enjoyed a public sale; when Benjamin Eliot submitted

<sup>32</sup> Arc., LVIII, 269.

<sup>33</sup> Legislative Records, VIII, 286.

<sup>34</sup> Arc., LVIII, 341a.

TABLE I—SOME BILLS FOR ELECTION SERMONS

YEAR	BOOKSELLER	NUMBER OF COPIES BILLED	DATE BILLED	COST OF PAPER		COST OF PRINTING SHEETS		COST OF BINDING		TOTAL		SOURCE		
				£	s	£	s	£	s	£	s			
1704	B. Eliot	150	June, 1704							3	15	—	Arc., LVIII, 241.	
1708	B. Eliot	300	Oct., 1708	1	14	8	2@£1	2	—	1	9	2	Arc., LVIII, 268.	
1724	S. Gerrish	400	June, 1724							16	18	6	<i>Journals</i> , vi, 81.	
1726	S. Gerrish	412	Aug., 1726							13	14	8	<i>Journals</i> , vii, 99.	
1727	S. Gerrish	450	June, 1727							16	5	—	<i>Journals</i> , vii, 287, 307	
1728	T. Hancock	400	June, 1728							18	6	8	<i>Journals</i> , viii, 236.	
1729	T. Hancock	425	Aug., 1729							24	14	8	<i>Journals</i> , ix, 51.	
1734	T. Hancock	500	July 2, 1734							35	8	4	Arc., LVIII, 303.	
1736	J. Eliot	490	June 17, 1736	11	18	—	3½@£3	10	10	—	6	2	6	Arc., LVIII, 306.
1738	Procter & Eliot	500	June, 1738	11	9	3	2¼@70s	9	12	6	7	16	3	Arc., CCXLVI, 38.
1749	S. Kneeland	500								75	—	—	Arc., CCXLVII, 184.	
1750	J. Draper	500	June, 1750	4	10	8	4@32s	6	8	—	2	5	8	Arc., CCXLVII, 216.

TABLE II—SOME BILLS FOR SPECIAL SERMONS

YEAR	AUTHOR	EVANS NUMBER	BOOKSELLER	NUMBER OF COPIES	COST OF PAPER		COST OF PRINTING SHEETS		COST OF BINDING		TOTAL		SOURCE			
					£	s	£	s	£	s	£	s				
1707	B. Colman	1294	N. Boone	200								3	6	8	Council, iv, 446.	
1708	B. Colman	1347	B. Eliot	500	3	3	—	2¼@20s	2	5	—	2	12	—	Arc., LVIII, 268.	
1708	C. Mather	1362	B. Green	1000	7	4	—	2@1/5/-	2	10	—	4	7	6	Arc., LVIII, 267.	
1714	C. Mather	1690	S. Gerrish	500								14	1	6	Council, vi, 277.	
1719	C. Mather	2036	B. Eliot	500								9	15	4	Council, vii, 79, 96.	
1727	J. Sewall	2957	D. Henshman	350								10	18	9	Arc., CCXLIV, 217.	
1727	T. Prince	2949	D. Henshman	364								11	7	6	Arc., CCXLV, 217.	
1727/8	T. Foxcroft	2874	S. Gerrish	500								31	5	—	<i>Journals</i> , viii, iii.	
1736	B. Colman	4004	D. Henshman	437	11	—	—	2½@60s	7	10	—	5	17	7	Arc., LVIII, 305.	
1738	S. Mather	4276	D. Henshman	450	14	3	9	2¼@70s	7	17	6	7	14	2	29	Arc., CCXLVI, 37.
1740	B. Colman	4488	D. Henshman	430	22	4	—	—	—	—	—	10	15	—	Arc., CCXLVI, 166.	
1740	J. Sewall	4597	D. Henshman	400	10	10	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	—	Arc., CCXLVI, 166.	

<sup>1</sup> John Draper's bill for printing is in Amer. Antiq. Soc., *Proceedings*, LXVI (1956), 33.

his bill in 1708 for Benjamin Colman's sermon on "the Happy Union of the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland," he deducted for seventy copies sold.<sup>35</sup> All available evidence implies that these special sermons, as the Election Sermons, were printed by the government printers. Certainly most, if not all, came from official presses. A summary of some bills for special sermons is presented in Table II.

From time to time, the government printed documents that made news. A report of the Governor's conference with the Indians appeared in 1717 after the House had voted its publication.<sup>36</sup> Ten years later, House and Council approved Samuel Kneeland's bill of 16/14/8 for four hundred copies of the 1727 conference.<sup>37</sup> In 1742, John Draper submitted his bill for the report of the conference of that year—printing three hundred copies, 12/10/6, folding and stitching, 3/15/-.<sup>38</sup> Reports of committees, copies of acts and laws appeared as separates if needed. When William Shirley's Louisburg journal was published in London in 1746, the Province immediately ordered a reprint.<sup>39</sup>

A dilemma occurred in 1749 when the House voted to print an act for drawing in bills of credit. At the time, this act was engrossed but not enacted, and the Council non-concurred the vote to print. Whereupon the House found itself voting "Whether this House can with Propriety come into a Resolution to print the Bill without the Concurrence of the Board?"<sup>40</sup> It did not pass; the bill was not printed until it was enacted and the Council approved.

Of the printers' bills remaining in the Massachusetts Archives, the greatest number, by far, pertain to the job

<sup>35</sup> Arc., LVIII, 269.

<sup>36</sup> *Journals*, I, [251].

<sup>37</sup> *Journals*, VII, 350; Council, VIII, 589.

<sup>38</sup> Arc., CXCV, 320.

<sup>39</sup> *Journals*, XXIII, 236; Legislative Records, XVII-5, 684.

<sup>40</sup> *Journals*, XXV, 190.

work done for the Province. Proclamations, tax warrants, articles of war, oaths, muster rolls, and a variety of other government forms are not only listed by date but often also listed with the number of copies printed. Many of these items have long since disappeared; here can be found the only records of their existence. Therefore, as an aid to the investigator, abstracts of the most important of these bills are appended to this paper. In perusing the abstracts, one sees the day-to-day business of a colonial government—its difficulties, financial, emotional, political, and extramural as well as its constant effort to maintain a stable organization.

As a by-product of a survey such as this, there grew a more intimate acquaintance with the men who owned the presses. They must have been an aggressive group for, few as they were, they held on to the government business for a goodly number of years. Yet the record discloses that they did not always have as much political influence as they desired. When Samuel Kneeland applied for a tavern license in 1733, the House approved, but the Council non-concurred.<sup>41</sup> When, in the following year, he applied for a grant of land in consideration of his services as Clerk to the Narragansett Grantees, the House turned him down.<sup>42</sup> In January, 1734/5, he applied again, receiving House approval but nonconcurrence by the Council.<sup>43</sup> It was not until April, 1735, that the Council reconsidered and concurred.<sup>44</sup> Kneeland, evidently, had finally managed to persuade the proper people.

Throughout this period, the House carefully watched the printed texts of documents. In 1744, it was again necessary to admonish the printers:

<sup>41</sup> Legislative Records, XV, 472.

<sup>42</sup> *Journals*, XII, 105.

<sup>43</sup> *Journals*, XII, 170; Legislative Records, XVI, 115.

<sup>44</sup> Legislative Records, XVI, 127.

A printed Paper being laid before the House, intituled *An Extract from the Militia Law*, &c. which Paper as it appears has been dispers'd amongst the Inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, and the said Paper varying in many Particulars from the Province Law of which it is said to be an Extract, and Mr. *Green* the Printer being sent for by the House, and he declaring that he took his Directions from the Field Officers of the Regiment of the Town of *Boston*; It was thereupon *Resolved*, That the printing or publishing any Extract of any Law, varying in any Measure from such Law, however such Variation may be intended for the Ease and Benefit of the Subject, is a dangerous Practice, and may be attended with many Inconveniences to the Inhabitants of this Province.<sup>45</sup>

Maintaining political relations was only one of the uncertainties facing the printer, competition was another. One can easily imagine Kneeland's consternation when he heard that Rogers & Fowle were submitting the following petition to the General Court in March, 1750:

That Whereas your Petitioners have procured an Original Manuscript, called Exact and Correct Tables for the ready turning old Tenour into lawfull Money; and for knowing the Value in lawfull Money of Pistoles, Moydores, Guineas, and other Pieces of Silver and Gold Coin; Which Tables have been well approved of by the Publick, and some hundreds of them already distributed in the several Towns of the Province—And Whereas your Petitioners well know that Printers and Booksellers in London have the Benefit always, if they please, of all usefull original Manuscripts by them obtained; which is a great Encouragement to Learning &c.

Your Petitioners Therefore humbly request the sole Priviledge of printing the aforesaid Tables (generally thought well adapted to common Capacities, as being agreeable (*sic*) to the Rules of the most usual Arithmetick) for one Year to come, with any Additions and Alterations that in your Wisdom shall be judged Necessary; and Your Petitioners shall in Duty bound ever Pray &c.<sup>46</sup>

Faced with this prospect of a publisher's copyright, Kneeland immediately submitted the following petition:

<sup>45</sup> *Journals*, XX, 405.

<sup>46</sup> *Arc.*, CII, 468.

That your Petitioner being informed that Messrs. Rogers and Fowle of said Boston, Printers, have presented a Petition to this honourable Court for your Approbation or License of their Tables for turning old Tenor into lawful Money; your Petitioner humbly Requests that their said Petition may not be granted, for the following Reasons, viz.

That your Petitioner has with considerable Pains and Cost procur'd a Table for the ready turning old Tenor into lawful Money, with sundry other useful Tables, which have been examined and approved by several ingenious Gentlemen, and among the rest your Petitioner shew'd the same to Mr. Gray, the Author of the Tables petition'd to be licenc'd by this honourable Court, who was pleas'd to say to your Petitioner, that by the Method gone into by Mr. Mansfield, the known ingenious Author of your Petitioner's Tables, he could not err; your Petitioner has also published a Table for the above Purposes, call'd, The Countryman's Table, which has also been perus'd and esteem'd by good Judges, to be very exact and useful —

The only other Reason your Petitioner would mention to the honourable Court is; That on a Message sent to Mr. Mansfield by Messrs. Rogers & Fowle, of their Intention to lay their Tables before the General Court for Approbation, as they have now done; Mr. Mansfield wrote to Mr. Gray a very friendly Letter, of which Mr. Mansfield sent your Petitioner a Copy, and which he is ready to produce, wherein he informs Mr. Gray of several Errors in his Table; which now lays before the Court for Approbation, which says he, "I am loth to publish to the World, or to the General Court, as I must do, if Rogers and Fowle pursue their Intentions of throwing your Tables there for Approbation" —

Your Petitioner, for these and several other Reasons, move the Petitioners, viz. Messrs. Rogers and Fowle Request may not be granted; or if their Tables obtain the Court's Approbation, the Tables made by Mr. Mansfield; as also the Table call'd, The Countryman's Table, may be also approved in the same Method, by this honourable Court

And your Petitioner shall ever pray.<sup>47</sup>

Both petitions were approved by the House, but nonconcurr'd in Council, illustrating, by the way, the copyright situation of that time. The Council probably refused to approve because of the English copyright law. Colonial bookseller-publishers therefore found themselves without

<sup>47</sup> Arc., CII, 465-466.



protection and, in desperation, were willing to settle for a copyright term of one year. But even that was to no avail.

Examining government printing in the Province of Massachusetts-Bay during the first half of the eighteenth century, one sees the towering figure of Bartholomew Green bolstered by a son-in-law on each side: Green and Kneeland and Draper supplying the government with its printing requirements, a phrase not so meaningful today as when the printed word was the only form of mass communication. These men, along with Thomas Fleet and Timothy Green, may not have been great printers in an aesthetic sense, but they were dependable and that was a quality greatly needed in the growing province.

And so the presses groaned, and the printers lifted out the documents which welded a colony, strengthening it for the critical period ahead.

## APPENDIX

### *Abstracts from Some Printers' Bills in the Massachusetts Archives*

#### 1.

#### [From Bartholomew Green<sup>1</sup>]

		£	s	d
1729				
Sept. 12	To paper and printing a proclamation for all officers to continue in their places 175	01	05	00
Oct. 4	To paper and printing Warrants to Select-men, for the Treasurer, fine paper 144	01	10	00
9	To paper and printing a Large Tax Act, two sheets, at 2£/10s per sheet	05	00	00
	To folding and stitching 166 Tax Acts	00	10	00
10	To paper and printing a Large Impost Act, two sheets, at 40s per sheet	04	00	00
	To folding and stitching 150 Impost Acts	00	08	00
13	To paper and printing a proclamation, for a publick Thanksgiving, 300 [Ford 563]	02	00	00

<sup>1</sup> Arc., CCXLIV, 24r.

		£	s	d
Oct. 23	To paper and printing Large Warrants to Constables, for the Treasurer, 300	01	15	00
Jan. 1	To printing an Advertisement, about Bills of Credit	00	07	00
Feb. 28	To paper and printing a proclamation, to prorogue the General Assembly, 200 [Ford 582]	01	00	00
March 2	To paper and printing a proclamation, for a General Fast, 300 [Ford 583]	02	00	00
23	To paper and printing divers sorts of Oaths, for Mr. Secretary, on a whole sheet 200	01	16	00
26	To printing a proclamation, about the Land in Narragansett,	00	10	00
1730				
April 6	To paper and printing a proclamation to Dissolve the General Assembly, 200	01	00	00
27	To paper and printing precepts and returns, 150	01	10	00
May 28	To printing a proclamation, about the Land in Narragansett	00	10	00
June 15	To paper and printing a proclamation, for all officers to continue in their places, 200 [Ford 584]	01	05	00
18	To paper and printing Certificates, about Wolves and Wild Catts, for the Treasurer, 200	00	15	00
		<hr/>		
		£27	01	00

## 2.

[From John Draper<sup>2</sup>]

		£	s	d
1734				
Oct. 8	To Paper & Printing a Proclamation for a publick Thanksgiving 300 [Ford 648]	2	15	00
Dec. 16	To large Paper & Printing the Proclamation relating to the Pine Trees, with the Acts of Parliament and Paragraph of the Charter thereto referring	5	10	00
1734/5				
March 8	To Paper & Printing a Proclamation for a Fast	2	15	00
19	To 13 Quire of Demy Paper @ 7/.	4	11	00
	To Printing the Lists of Polls and Rateable Estates, above 300	3	10	00
April 19	To Paper and Printing the Proclamation against the New Hampshire Notes of Hand [Ford 658]	2	15	00
23	To fine Paper & Printing 125 large Writs to the Sheriffs for calling a new Assembly	2	10	00
25	To Paper & Printing the Precepts & Returns 220	1	15	00
	To publishing the Vote for prolonging the Time for the choice of a Surveyor of Hemp in such Towns as had not chosen them; as also the Vote for lengthening the Time for the Assessors taking Lists of the Rateable Estates	0	10	00

<sup>2</sup> Arc., CCXLV, 37.

## 1958.] GOVERNMENT PRINTING IN MASS. BAY, 1700-1750 153

		£	s	d
May 29	To Paper & Printing the Warrants for the Treasurer, to the Assessors of those Towns which have not paid their part of the £60,000	1	15	00
July 15	To Paper & Printing the Tax-Act quarto Two Sheets and half, 190	6	17	6
16	To Paper & Printing the Treasurer's Warrants to the Assessors, 160	2	00	00
	To folding and stitching the Tax-Acts	1	00	00
21	To Paper & Printing the Impost-Act quarto a Sheet & half	4	2	6
	To folding & stitching the said Act	0	10	00
		<hr/>		
		£42	16	00

## 3.

[From John Draper<sup>3</sup>]

		£	s	d
1734/5				
Jan.	To printing the Act relating to the raising of Flax & Hemp, per order of the Secretary	1	00	00
Oct. 19	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for a Thanksgiving 320 [Ford 659]	3	00	00
Nov. 12	To Paper & printing 340 Warrants to the Constables	2	10	00
Dec. 20	To Paper & printing 350 Proclamations for a Fast on Account of the Sickness	3	2	6
1735/6				
Jan. 2	To Paper & printing a Proclamation relating to the Persons that assaulted and abused John Blackburn Tide Surveyor 150	2	10	00
Feb. 27	To Paper & printing 500 Warrants to the Treasurer for the Payment of Money	2	00	00
March 4	To Paper & printing 320 Proclamations for a Fast [Ford 670]	3	00	00
April 5	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for dissolving the General Court 160	2	00	00
9	To Paper & printing Precepts & Returns for calling a new Assembly	2	00	00
July 8	To 1 Ream of Paper	2	15	00
24	To Printing the Tax-Bill, quarto 2 sheets & half, @ 60/. per sheet [Evans 4037]	7	10	00
27	To Paper & printing Warrants Treasurer to the Assessors 170	2	00	00
	To folding & stitching 190 of the Tax-Bills	1	12	3
31	To Ten Quire & half of Paper @ 2/.	1	1	00
	To printing the Impost-Act, quarto one sheet and half @ 50/. [Evans 4038]	3	10	00

<sup>3</sup> Arc., CCXLV, 253.

		£	s	d
Aug. 4	To folding & stitching 150 of said Acts	0	13	4
13	To Paper & printing a Proclamation about altering the Forms of Prayer for the Royal Family	2	5	00
23	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for proroguing the General Court 160 [Ford 671]	2	00	00
Oct. 4	To Paper & printing a Proclamation further to prorogue the General Court 160 [Ford 672]	2	00	00
18	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for a Thanksgiving 320 [Ford 673]	3	00	00
Nov. 1	To Paper & printing the Treasurer's Warrants to the Constables, 340 [Ford 674]	2	10	00
1736/7				
Feb. 23	To Paper & Printing a Proclamation for a Fast 330	3	00	00
March 29	To Paper & printing a Proclamation against the Persons concerned in pulling down the Market-House, &c. [Ford 681]	2	10	00
April 1	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for dissolving the General Assembly [Ford 682]	2	00	00
16	To Paper & printing a very large Proclamation for discovering the Author or Authors of several seditious & prophane, with the said Letters, inserted. 230 [Ford 683]	4	10	00
18	To Paper & printing Precepts & Returns for calling a new Assembly, 230	2	00	00
		<hr/>		
		£65	19	1
		<hr/>		
		N. M.	21	19
				8

## 4.

[From Samuel Kneeland, May 15, 1738<sup>4</sup>]

		£	s	d
	To paper and printing 200 Blank Certificates for Grown Wolves, Wild Catts, &c. by order of Mr. Treasurer Foye in April last	02	00	00
	To paper and printing a number of Blank Warrants for Constables, by order of Mr. Treasurer Foye	01	05	00
	To paper and printing the Votes of the Honourable House of Representatives, from October 12, 1737, to April 21, 1738, making 32 Sheets, at 40s per Sheet	64	00	00
	To folding, stitching and covering 185 compleat Setts of the Votes, for the two last years, at 3s per Book	27	15	00
	To paper printing and stitching 400 of the Bills for the Emission of 60,000£ at 5d making one Sheet and half [Ford 696]	08	06	08
		<hr/>		
		£103	06	08
		New bills	34	8
				11

<sup>4</sup> Arc., CCXLVI, 15.

## 5.

[From John Draper<sup>5</sup>]

		£	s	d
1737/8				
Feb. 20	To printing 575 Warrants for the payment of Money, and 6 Quire of fine Paper @ 3/6	3	1	00
March 17	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for a Fast 340	3	10	00
April 24	To Paper & printing Precepts and Returns, about 240	2	5	00
July 17	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for proroguing the Court To 1 Ream & 2 Quire of large Paper for the Tax Act	2	5	00
		3	5	00
20	To printing the Tax-Act quarto Two sheets & ½ @ 65/. To Paper & printing Warrants for the Treasurer to the Assessors 190	8	2	6
		2	5	00
	To folding & stitching 190 of the Tax-Acts, @ 2d each	1	12	3
22	To 16 Quire of Paper for the Impost-Act	2	00	00
25	To printing the Impost-Act quarto Two sheets, @ 55/. per sheet	5	10	00
	To folding & stitching 170 of the said Acts	00	14	2
Sept. 6	To Paper & printing a Proclamation relating to the Isle of Sables [Ford 697]	2	15	00
13	To ½ a Ream of fine Writing Paper	1	7	6
	To printing almost 300 Forms of Oaths and Declarations	2	5	00
Oct. 2	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for proroguing the General Court	2	5	00
20	To Paper & printing the Treasurer's Warrants to the Constables 350	2	15	00
31	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for Thanksgiving 350 [Ford 698]	3	10	00
		<hr/>		
		£49	7	5

## 6.

[From John Draper<sup>6</sup>]

		£	s	d
1738/9				
Jan. 16	To Paper & printing 100 Constables Warrants, for the Treasurer	2	5	00
18	To printing an advertisement relating to the Rhode-Island New Bills 1738, with the Act against taking or receiving said Bills, &c.	1	10	00
March 5	To paper & printing a large Proclamation for a Fast 350	3	15	00

<sup>5</sup> Arc., CCXLVI, 46.<sup>6</sup> Arc., CCXLVI, 120.

		£	s	d
1739				
April 27	To paper & printing Precepts & Returns for calling a New Assembly 260	2	10	00
May 3	To printing an advertisement about the Allowance granted to the Constables or Collectors of the several Towns to receive Hemp & Flax, agreeable to an Act of the General Court	00	10	00
June 28	To Paper & printing Warrants for the Treasurer 50	1	15	00
July 23	To 1 Ream of paper	1	15	00
	To printing an Extract from the Supply Bill, pass'd in the Year 1737, so far as in respects the Assessment of the Year 1739 quarto 2 sheets 200 @ 65	6	10	00
	To folding & stitching them	1	13	4
	To paper & printing Warrants from the Treasurer to the Assessors 190	2	10	00
Aug. 11	To paper & printing a large proclamation about Letters of Marque [Ford 713]	3	10	00
28	To Paper & printing a very large Proclamation for preventing Disorders on the Lord's-Day 450	4	10	00
Oct. 22	To 8 Quire of writing Paper, @ 2/6	1	00	00
	To printing thereon 380 large Warrants for the Treasurer	2	15	00
Nov. 6	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for a Thanksgiving 350	3	15	00
14	To 3 Quire of paper @ 5/.	00	15	00
	To printing large Warrants to the Assessors, relating to the calling in of the 60,000 Loan	2	10	00
22	To Paper & printing the Act relating to the calling in the 60,000 Loan 150	2	10	00
	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for apprehending Peter Knox & Samuel Cockrain 120 [Ford 714]	3	5	00
1739/40				
Jan. 10	To a Ream of Paper	1	15	00
	To printing the Impost-Act quarto 2 sheets @ 60/.	6	00	00
	To folding & stitching 200 of said Acts at 1½d	1	5	00
March 8	To Paper & printing a proclamation for a Fast [Ford 727]	3	15	00
1740				
March 20	To Paper & printing Warrants from the Treasurer to the Constables, for collecting the outstanding Bills of the 60,000 Loan 100	2	10	00
April 5	To Paper & printing a Proclamation relating to the Schemes for Money &c. 150 [Ford 728]	3	10	00
21	To paper & printing a large Proclamation relating to Volunteer Soldiers encouraged to enlist under Col. Spotswood, against the Spaniards 200	3	15	00
25	To Paper & printing Precepts & Returns for calling a new Assembly, better Paper than last year, by 8/.	2	18	00
29	To Paper & printing Warrants for the Treasurer, about 100	2	5	00

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May 16	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for apprehending sundry Deserters, from on board his Majesty's Ship Astrea, Capt. Percivall, Commander, 125	£	5	d
			3	5 00
June 30	To Paper & printing a Proclamation to prevent Disturbance among those who live near the Borders of the Northern Line [Ford 729]		3	5 00
July 1	To a Ream & 2 Quire of Paper		2	5 00
	To printing thereon a large Proclamation relating to the Encouragement Given by His Majesty to Volunteers that shall enlist in this Province, in the intended Expedition against the Spaniards, 500 [Ford 730]		3	10 00
19	To Paper & printing a Proclamation relating to the Scheme of John Colman, Esquire, and others [Ford 731]		3	5 00
31	To advertising an Order Passed the Great and General Court, respecting the Committee authorized & impowered to demand & receive of the Commissioners of the 100,000 Loan, all Mortgages, Money, &c. in their Hands 28 Lines		00	15 00
	To advertising such as have a Ship or Vessel suitable for a Transport to repair to a Committee appointed by the Government		00	5 00
Aug. 5	To a Ream & 2 Quire of large Crown Paper		3	5 00
14	To printing the Tax Act, quarto 2 sheets and ½ @ 70/. [Evans 4552]		8	15 00
16	To folding and stitching, 200		1	13 4
	To Paper & printing Warrants to the Assessors 200		2	10 00
1740				
Aug. 18	To 4 Quire best Demy Paper		2	8 00
21	To an advertisement ordering a General Muster of the Soldiers for the intended Expedition, to appear the 25th Instant 19 Lines		00	10 00
1740				
Sept. 19	To Paper & printing a Proclamation for apprehending & bringing in Deserters 200		3	10 00
Oct. 20	To paper & printing a Proclamation for proroguing the General Court		2	10 00
23	To paper & printing a proclamation for a Thanksgiving [Ford 732]		3	15 00
29	To Paper & printing a proclamation against Civil Officers encouraging the Land-Scheme 100 [Ford 733?]		3	00 00
Nov. 7	To Paper & printing said Proclamation with alterations twice, 300 first, 150 afterwards, the whole 450		4	00 00
8	To Paper & printing the Governour's Proclamation against Officers in the Militia encouraging the Land Scheme twice, 300 first, and 150 afterwards, in all 450 [Ford 734]		4	00 00

		£	s	d
Nov. 10	To 8 Quire Paper at 4/.	1	12	00
12	To printing thereon 380 large Warrants for the Treasurer to the Constables	2	15	00
		£137	9	8

## 7.

[From John Draper<sup>7</sup>]

		£	s	d
1746				
April 24	To printing the Governour's Order to the Colonels and chief Officers of the Regiments, respecting the Time of keeping Soldiers in the Service	1	00	00
May 1	To printing an advertisement to direct the Officers of the Militia to require the Inhabitants of the Frontier Towns, to have and carry Arms, Ammunition &c.	00	10	00
April 26	To 6 Quire of Paper	2	5	00
28	To printing Precepts and Returns for calling a General Assembly	4	10	00
	To 6 Quire of Paper	00	18	00
	To printing a Proclamation for apprehending sundry Deserters [Ford 842]	3	10	00
May 17	To 15 Quire of Paper	1	17	6
	To printing a Proclamation That the Militia be appointed with Arms, &c. and the Towns with Powder, according to Law [Ford 843]	3	15	00
June 3	To 21 Quire of Paper	2	12	6
	To printing a large Proclamation for encouraging Volunteers to enlist in the Expedition for the Reduction of Canada [Ford 844]	5	00	00
	To 4 Quire & half of Paper	1	2	6
	To printing the Governours Warrants for Officers to beat for enlisting Volunteers	2	5	00
	To paper and printing Oaths of Fidelity	00	15	00
5	To printing the Governours Orders to the several Colonels to provide their full Quotas of Men for the Defence of the Frontiers, &c.	1	00	00
6	To 3 Quire of Paper	00	15	00
	To printing Articles of War, above 200	2	10	00
12	To an advertisement notifying such as have had Money advanced to them out of the Treasury to render their accounts to the Secretary's Office	1	00	00
17	To 5 Quire and ½ of Paper	1	7	6
	To printing Warrants for the Payment of Money 500	3	10	00
19	To an advertisement respecting Cloathing & Arms for the Soldiers to be raised in the Expedition against Canada	1	00	00

<sup>7</sup> Arc., CCXLVII, 95.



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		£	s	d
1746				
June 19	To an advertisement respecting Youths enlisting under 16 years	1	00	00
	To 18 Quire of Paper	2	5	00
	To printing a Proclamation for a Fast [Ford 845]	4	00	00
26	To an advertisement for the Colonels of the Regiments to reduce their Horse to one single Troop &c.	1	00	00
	To an advertisement respecting the assessing the fishing and coasting Vessels for Impost	1	00	00
	To 6 Quire of paper 15/. and printing thereon 150 Proclamations for the Encouragement of Soldiers enlisting for Canada (omitted the [week?])	2	5	00
27	To 5 Quire of Paper	00	12	6
	To printing the said Proclamation again	2	00	00
28	To 3 Quire of Paper	00	10	00
	To printing 150 more Articles of War & Oaths	1	10	00
30	To 4 Ream of Paper	16	00	00
	To printing 6900 Enlistments & Certificates for the Expedition designed against Canada and [delivered?] at sundry Times in the Month of June according to order	17	5	00
July 3	To an advertisement relating to the Field Officers to be appointed in the intended Expedition	1	00	00
8	To 5 Quire of paper	00	12	6
	To printing a Proclamation for an Embargo	3	5	00
	To 1 Quire & half of Paper	00	7	6
	To printing 125 Articles of War, &c.	1	10	00
11	To an advertisement requiring Persons who have received Beating Orders to transmit to the Governour a List of the Names of the Persons enlisted &c.	1	00	00
	To advertisement notifying the Colonels who have delayed raising Soldiers for the Frontier that Excellency expects & requires that they have their Quotas at the Places ordered without Delay	1	00	00
12	To paper & printing 100 more Beating Orders	1	10	00
14	To 2 Quire & half of paper	00	9	00
	To printing a Proclamation for taking up Deserters [Ford 846]	3	5	00
17	To an advertisement for Pilots acquainted with the Navigation of Canada River	1	00	00
	To an advertisement commanding all Officers employed in enlisting Soldiers not to take in their Lists impressed Men, &c.	1	00	00
	To an advertisement of permission to Coasters	1	00	00
21	To an advertisement for the Officers who have had beating-orders to send in exact Lists of Men enlisted into the Service, &c.	1	00	00

		£	s	d
1746				
July 26	To 17 Quire of Paper	2	2	6
	To printing a Proclamation for a Thanksgiving [Ford 847]	4	00	00
29	To printing a Ream of Muster-Rolls for the Commissary	6	00	00
31	To a Ream & 8 Quire & ½ of paper	3	5	00
	To printing the Tax Bill containing 3 sheets	18	00	00
	To folding and stitching the same	2	10	00
	To 5 Quire and half of Paper	1	5	00
	To printing the Treasurer's Warrants to the Assessors	3	15	00
Aug. 8	To 3 Ream of Paper	12	00	00
	To printing 5285 Enlistments & Certificates at sundry Times in the Month of July and to this Day for the Canada Expedition	13	4	00
15	To printing 200 Orders from the Governour for Officers to bring their Men to Boston	1	00	00
	To printing the same in the News-Letter	1	00	00
21	To 11 Quire of paper	4	8	00
	To printing Forms of Account for Billeting Men, 500	4	00	00
Sept. 17	To 5 Quire of Paper	00	15	00
	To printing a Proclamation for apprehending sundry Deserters from his Majesty's squadron at Louisbourg [Ford 848]	4	00	00
18	To printing an Act against firing guns loaded with Ball or Shot in the Town of Boston, &c.	1	10	00
	To 6 Quire of Paper for Commissions	2	8	00
20	To 13 Quire of Paper	4	16	00
	To printing a Letter from his Excellency to the Honourable Paul Mascarene, Esquire, in the French Language 300	6	00	00
Oct. 3	To 11 Quire of Paper	4	8	00
	To printing 500 more Forms of Billeting Soldiers	4	00	00
7	To 16 Quire of Paper	2	8	00
	To printing a proclamation for a Fast [Ford 849]	4	00	00
17	To 17 Quire of Paper @ 6/.	5	2	00
19	To printing the Treasurer's Warrants to the Constables 500	4	15	00
	To advertisement with the Vote of the General Court relating to such Persons as have received Beating Orders	1	00	00
23	To an advertisement ordering the Embargo on Vessels to be taken off	1	00	00
	To printing the Vote of the General Court relating to the Money which the enlisting Officers have received requiring their Accompts, &c.	1	00	00
Nov. 8	To 17 Quire of Paper	2	14	00
	To printing a Proclamation for a Thanksgiving [Ford 850]	4	00	00
26	To a Ream of paper	7	00	00
	To printing a Ream of Muster-Rolls for the Commissary	6	00	00

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		£	s	d
1746				
Nov. 29	To two Quire of Paper	00	16	00
	To printing Letters to be sent by the Treasurer to the Assessors of the Maratime [ <i>sic</i> ] Towns, to assess the Tonnage of shipping	2	00	00
1746/7				
Feb. 27	To printing half a Ream of Muster-Rolls	3	10	00
March 14	To 17 Quire of paper	2	11	00
	To printing a Proclamation for a Fast [Ford 861?]	4	00	00
19	To advertisement for French Prisoners to come in in order to redeem the Captives at Canada	1	00	00
April 16	To advertising the Governours orders to Commanders not to grant Furlows but in Case, &c.	1	00	00
23	To advertising the Persons who received Bounty-Money from the Committee forthwith to account therefor	1	00	00
24	To 10 Quire of Paper @ 6/.	3	00	00
	To printing about 1000 Warrants for the Payment of Money	5	00	00
25	To 3 Quire of Paper	1	16	00
	To printing Precepts and Returns for calling a new Assembly	4	10	00
May 7	To advertising the Vote of the General Court respecting the Choice of Persons to inform against taking Rhode Island, New-Emission Bills	1	00	00
25	To 4 Quire of Paper	1	8	00
	To printing 200 Portledge Bills for the Commissary General	3	00	00
June 25	To advertising all Persons who have receiv'd Money out of the Treasury for the Encouragement of the Expedition, against Cape Breton or that intended against Canada to make up their Accompts with the Committee, &c.	2	00	00
	To an advertisement relating to sending in a List of the Names of the French Prisoners, &c.	1	10	00
July 9	To an advertisement for the Encouragement of Coasting Vessels that may be employed in transporting Food, &c.	1	10	00
	To advertising the French Prisoners in this Province to be sent to Boston without Delay, &c.	2	00	00
1747				
July 22	To 6 Quire of Paper	1	7	00
	To printing the Impost Act quarto 1 sheet & half	10	10	00
	To folding and stitching the same	3	6	8
23	To an Advertisement for Persons who have French Prisoners and have given Bond for their Delivery to send them to Boston to go in the Flag of Truce for Canada	1	10	00
25	To 4 Quire and 1/2 of Paper	00	18	00
	To printing a Proclamation for the Members of the General Court to attend at the Day of Adjournment [Ford 862]	3	10	00

		£	s	d
July 30	To 6 Quire of paper	1	19	00
	To printing Executions for the Treasurer	4	10	00
Aug. 10	To printing a Ream of Muster-Rolls for the Commissary-General	7	00	00
20	To a Ream and half of Paper	4	10	00
	To printing the Tax Bill quarto 3 sheets	21	00	00
	To folding and stitching the same	3	00	00
19	To 5 Quire and half of Paper	1	13	00
	To printing Warrants to the Assessors for the Treasurer	4	00	00
20	To printing the Act respecting Coaches, Carts, &c. to prevent their disturbing the General Court	2	10	00
Oct. 21	To 4 Quire and ½ Paper	1	12	00
	To printing a large Declaration respecting His Majesty's Subjects the Inhabitants of Nova-Scotia, per order of the Governour	8	00	00
23	To 4 Quire and half of Paper	1	7	00
	To printing 200 Portledge Bills for the Commissary-General	3	10	00
Nov. 5	To 17 Quire of Paper	3	10	00
	To printing a Proclamation for Thanksgiving [Ford 863]	5	00	00
12	To printing a Proclamation requiring the attendance of the Members of the General Court [Ford 864]	1	10	00
19	To 17 Quire of Paper @ 6/6	5	10	6
	To printing Treasurers Warrants to the Constables [400?]	6	15	00
	To printing a Proclamation for apprehending Rioters [Ford 865]	4	00	00
Dec. 12	To 10 Quire of paper	3	10	00
	To printing Warrants for the Payment of Money (about 900)	6	15	00
	To an advertisement for Persons who have in their Hands or found any Books, papers, &c. saved from the Court-House to bring them to the Secretary	1	00	00
1747				
Dec. 26	To 8 Quire & ½ of Paper @ 10/.	4	5	00
	To printing 200 Oaths of Allegiance and Declaration	6	00	00
1747/8				
Jan. 4	To 17 Quire of paper	3	10	00
	To printing a Proclamation for a Fast [Ford 866]	6	00	00
7	To an advertisement for Clerks of the Peace to send Lists of the Justices into the Secretary's Office	1	00	00
		£438	4	2
	Deduct the articles of £10 16			
		9	12	
		20	8	
		£417	16	2
	allowed N. T.	£104	9	½

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