

THE CAMBRIDGE PRESS.

BY ANDREW MCF. DAVIS.

A COLLECTION of Dunster MSS. in the archives of Harvard College, contains much that is interesting. Several of the papers in this collection have already been published, copies of the same documents having been preserved elsewhere. Many of them relate to the controversy between the heirs of the Glover Estate and Dunster, in which various suits were tried in 1656.¹ The question of the ownership of the press came thus to be considered, and an attempt was apparently made to ascertain the profits on the several publications while it was under Dunster's superintendence. From papers bearing on these points some new information can be obtained.

Two items entered in the College Books concerning the press and the first font of letters at Cambridge, have especially attracted the attention of those who have written about the early benefactors of the college. The first of these is the entry made by President Hoar in 1674, of the names of the "Benefactors of the first font of Letters for Printing in Cambridge, New England." The second is the statement that "Jos. Glover" gave to the college a "font of printing letters" and that "some gentlemen of Amsterdam gave towards the furnishing of a Printing Press with letters, forty nine pounds and something more."

¹In an old steward's Account Book in the archives, credit is given Longe, a student, on the 9th. of the 10th, 1653—as follows:

Paid to the President by intering two actiones	1 ^{lb} : 0: 0.
and again on the 9th of the 4th, 1654—	

Paid by Mr. Dunster 20 ^s by two actiones	1 ^{lb} : 0: 0.
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These are both credits given Longe for money advanced to Dunster for some purpose, and I know of no other interpretation that can be given to them than that the money so advanced was applied in payment of court fees in some of Dunster's litigations.

“Joss. Glover” whose name is recorded as a benefactor of the college, sailed in 1638 for New England, bringing with him a printing press, types and a practical printer. Glover died on the passage. Dunster married his widow, and it is through this circumstance that a doubt is raised about the ownership of the press. We can trace the types into the hands of the college through the entry above quoted. Stephen Daye, the practical printer, came to Cambridge and worked the press. In this collection of papers we have the bond given by him to “Josse Glover” for the return of moneys advanced by Glover. In the information given by the Corporation and Overseers to the General Court in 1655, we have the statement that the “College hath as appears by the Inventory thereof, a few utensils with the press.” We also know from the same source that the press was then in the President’s house; that the revenue from it was small, and that the working of the press was not only inconvenient but was considered hurtful and dangerous. There would be no reason to doubt that the college was the owner of the press were it not for the papers in the suit of “Glover against Dunster,” in which the jury by their verdict charged Dunster with the following item, “The Presse & the P’fitt of it £40.”

At a later period in the controversy, all matters in dispute between Dunster and those who were interested in the Joss. Glover estate were submitted to the court and in the decision of the court Dunster was charged with the following item: “To printing presse & paper £50.”¹

¹ Among the papers on file at East Cambridge, in the suit of John Glover against Henry Dunster, there is a paper headed “Mr Dunster acknowledge to receive.” One of the items of the paper is “Presse & p’fit £40.00.00.” Stephen Daye also made an affidavit as to the value of the press, as follows: “I Steven Daye aged 62 years do attest that the charges wch Mr Glover expended in Engl. for the p’curing of the Printing Presse was besides freight & other petty expenses at least twenty pounds the wch Presse hath been imp’ved by order of Mr Dunster as appeareth by another testimony I have given in, also I do attest that the same materials that were brought over hither as above said are worth in this place at least 40^{li}.”

Sworn in court. 2 (2) '56

Among the papers in the College archives is one which may help in solving this question. It is an affidavit made by Stephen Daye as to the cost of the paper received by Dunster and the amount then remaining in his possession. It was evidently used in the suits connected with the Glover estate. It was dated 1, (2). 56. and contains this clause: "until such time as Mr Dunster sould the presse to the colledge upon his removall from thence." Here we have the ownership of the press by the college fixed and the manner described in which it was obtained. The assertion is made by Thomas in his *History of Printing* that the press owned by the college must have been the Glover Press. Thomas, so far as appears, arrived at this conclusion from sources of information independent of this affidavit, and notwithstanding he was aware that Dunster was charged with the press in the findings of the court.¹

In one of the papers in the archives, estimates are given of the paper required for, and the cost of printing several of the early publications at Cambridge. Joseph Willard, to whom this paper was submitted, easily identified its purpose, and in a letter to T. W. Harris, which is on file with the Dunster MSS., he states that it must have been prepared for use in the Glover suits.²

¹Thomas publishes several of the papers in these Glover suits in notes to his first volume.

²The following affidavit, filed among the papers of the Glover-Dunster suits, shows that Mr. Willard's conclusion was correct: "Wee whose names are under written being desired to give an acct of the revenues of the Printing Presse during the time it was imp'ved by Mr Dunster, and for that end having spent some time togethr to recount the sevrall impressions that have gone forth from the same during the time that Mr Dunster had the dispose thereof. We do find that a just allowance being given for the hier of the laborers about ye presse, [or at least such as was allowed to the printers], and for the paper with other smal expenses for utensils about the presse the remainder of the Profits doth amount to about 192^{lb} 00^s 00^d. Weh we do conceive to be the truth according to or best knowledge being employed about the workes and in witness thereof do subscribe or names this 26, 11 mo, 1655.

STEVEN DAY
SAMUEL GREEN"

The paper mentioned in the text has neither date nor signature. It was by means of the memoranda in it that Mr. Willard identified its purpose. The net

The paper was folded when the notations upon it were made, precisely as sheets are folded to form a quarto. The notations were, however, all made upon one face of the sheet, and when it was inserted in the book in which it is now preserved, the sheet was flattened out. This not only threw the entries out of their natural sequence, but also inverted some of them.¹ It was only after an attempt to restore the items in position in order to inspect them all at one and the same time, that I could see that they were not only classified under the headings "Printed by Mr. Day" and "By Bro. Green," but that there was also a probable chronological sequence in the entries of the titles of the books, based upon the dates of their publication.

The entries, under the heading "Printed by Mr. Day," upon the first page as the sheet was folded, are a number of calculations with reference to the Psalm Book, the Law Book and other books, the apparent purpose of which was to fix the amounts received by Dunster from the sale of the books, the amount and value of the paper required for them, and the expense of printing them. Certain palpable errors of entry in some of the columns would indicate that the estimate was a hastily made abstract of the work done by Daye and Green, the main results being correctly preserved, while no pains were taken to compare the separate items. Parallel with the entries alluded to and on the opposite, or succeeding page, were a series of entries giving details concerning several of the publications. They are as follows :

Freeman's Oath.²

Psa. booke.³ 33 sheets 1700 collated

charges against Dunster in the estimates were for books published in Daye's time £114. 12. 1, in Green's time £78 — total £192. 12s. 01^d. The calculations were rough and did not include a number of books which were issued from the Cambridge press during this period.

¹See Appendix, page 302.

²Printed by S. Daye, Cambridge, 1639. *Transactions Am. Ant. Soc.*, Vol. VI., p. 309.

³The Whole Booke of Psalms, &c. Imprinted 1640. *Ibid.*, p. 309.

1888.]

The Cambridge Press.

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Sold at 20 ^d a piece	141 ^b : 13 : 04
to abate for printing	33 : 00 : 00

 108 : 13 : 04

Spent 116 Rheams pap ^r	
worth a Rheam	29. 00. 00

 79 : 13 : 04
The Capital Lawes.¹The Spelling Books.²

Against these two titles is written "These might take 7 Rheams of Paper."

The Declaration of the Narragansett Warr.³The Lawe Booke⁴ 17 : sheet 600 : collated.

Sould at 17 ^d a booke	42 : 10 : 00
to abate for printing	15 : 16 : 03

 26 : 13 : 09

Spent 21 Rheams of Paper	5 : 05 : 00
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 at 5. 05. 00

 21 : 8 : 09

Then follows a similar estimate with regard to "Mr Norriss's Katechism."⁵

¹1642—The Capital Laws of Massachusetts Bay, with the Freeman's Oath. Ordered to be printed, 18th 3d month, 1642. [Col. Rec.] Mentioned, as printed in Massachusetts, in the Preface to New England's Jonas cast up at London. *Ibid.*, p. 310.

²No spelling book is mentioned in the list given in the Transactions of the Am. Ant. Soc.

³1645. A Declaration of Former Passages and Proceedings Betwixt the English and the Narragansetts. 4to. [Daye]. Transactions Am. Ant. Soc., Vol. VI., p. 310.

⁴The Book of the General Lawes and Libertyes &c. Published 1649. Referred to in the Mass. records of May, 1648, as now in Presse. Transactions Am. Ant. Soc., Vol. VI., p. 310.

The Entry of the Book of Laws and Liberties by Mr. Haven under the year 1649, apparently throws it among Green's Books. The reference to the fact that it was in press in 1648 to a certain extent rectifies this, but it is classed in this estimate, as it properly should be among Daye's books.

⁵There was a "Katechism" printed by Daye in 1641. No other Catechism is given in the lists of his publications. It is natural to seek to identify "Mr. Norriss's Katechism" with the one published in 1641. That was, however, known as a Catechism "Agreed upon by the Elders." Believing that there is a chronological sequence in the arrangement of these publications, I think this must be a book concerning which nothing is known.

The foregoing items are taken from two pages of the sheet. By inverting the paper two other pages may be inspected, and these I think were intended to be classified under the heading "By Bro. Green." On the first, in the order in which I place them, estimates concerning the following publications are to be found:

Sinod Books.¹

Mr. Danforth's Katechism.²

The Psalm Book.³

The last and only remaining entry on the first page, devoted to Green's publications, reads as follows:

Lawes ⁴ 5 sheets	12 : 00 : 00
abate for paper	1 : 05 : 00
for print	5 :
	<hr/>
	5 : 15 : 00

On the Second of these pages we have estimates of the following publications:

"Mr. Mather's booke, 7 sheetes & $\frac{1}{2}$;"⁵ "The Indian Primer;"⁶ and "Almanacks and Thesis 5 years."⁷

¹A Platform of Church Discipline &c 1649. Transactions Am. Ant. Soc., Vol. VI., p. 310.

Mr. Haven has placed this before the Laws and Liberties, in his chronological sequence. The Laws and Liberties was apparently credited to Daye.

The Synod Book bears Green's imprint.

²The comment made with reference to Norriss's Catechism applies to this.

³1650. The Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs of the Old and New Testament, &c., &c. Transactions Am. Ant. Soc., Vol. VI., p. 311.

⁴The Laws "agreed upon to be printed" by order of the General Court, Oct. 15, 1650. Transactions Am. Ant. Soc., Vol. VI., p. 311.

If the theory be accepted that these titles are arranged chronologically according to their publication, then we have no difficulty in identifying this title as the "Lawes, 5 sheets."

⁵1652. Mather, Richard, The Summe of Certain Sermons upon Genes. &c &c. Transactions Am. Ant. Soc., Vol. VI., p. 311.

⁶This is not so easy of identification, but applying the test of chronological sequence, it seems probable that the "Indian Primer" was John Eliot's "Catechism in the Indian Language," printed 1653-4. Transactions Am. Ant. Soc., Vol. VI., p. 311.

The Massachusetts Commissioners were authorized to print an edition of 500 or a thousand copies. See Hazard's State Papers II. 299 & 300.

⁷Green's publications began in 1649. The titles of only two almanacs are preserved—in the years 1649-1655—and not a single thesis is mentioned. When we reflect that the "Book of Laws and Liberties," published in 1648, by author-

The foregoing list, although far from complete, if intended to include all the publications at Cambridge during the period which it covers, nevertheless adds a catechism and a spelling book to the books known to have been published by Daye, and it adds to the list of books published by Green, a catechism and three almanacs. If the identification of the Indian primer with Eliot's Catechism be not accepted, then that also must be added. The "Thesis" coupled with the Almanacs in the list may have referred to a single thesis, or it may have meant that there was a thesis with each almanac. In the titles of the two almanacs which have been preserved, there is no mention made of College Theses.

Perhaps the most singular feature of this collection is that so many books are omitted of whose publication by Daye or Greene during this period we have indisputable evidence.

In the course of the legal controversies between Dunster and the Glover Estate, the counsel of the Glovers left no stone unturned in their search for charges which could be piled up against Dunster. On the other hand he filed accounts against the various members of the Glover family of the most minute and detailed character. The omission of these books must have been intentional. For some reason or other their publication had netted Dunster no profits to which the Glover Estate could lay claim. Unsatisfactory as are deductions made from inadequate premises like the fragmentary annotations in this memorandum from the Dunster-Glover suits, the ephemeral character of the publications of the Cambridge Press compels us to welcome information even from such sources as this.

ity of the General Court, is not extant, we can easily conceive that the greater part of publications like Almanacs and Thesis, to which only a transient interest attached, would probably disappear. Thomas expresses the opinion that at least one almanac was published each year. This entry tends to show that he was right.

There is a curious entry in the Old Steward's Account Book already referred to which bears closely on this point. Bulkley is charged on the 11th of the 4th, 1652, as follows:

Payd to Sam Grean for ups (?) book alminackes and cutting his haire 3^s 8^d

If the Steward had realized the value of this entry he might perhaps have been more specific.

APPENDIX.

ESTIMATE OF DUNSTER'S PROFITS, SHOWING THE MANNER IN WHICH THE ITEMS ARE ENTERED.

5. 15	
for print	5. 00
abate for paper	1. 05. 00
Laws & sheets	12. 00. 00
Psalm besides the books he gave away.	
but ye printer says he got 50 th by ye	
Rest	42. 10. 00
for paper	30. 00. 00
abate for printing	40. 00. 00
Brooke	12. 10. 00
other 1000 to Mr Whaley, Tim &	
at 1 st a booke to Mr Usher & 13 ^d the	
The Psalm Book 2000 books 12 sheets	
Cost. 4. 00. 00	5. 00. 00
& a 100 books	1. 00. 00
4. 00. 00	
abate for printing & paper	6. 00. 00
Mr Dunforth's Katechism	10. 00. 00
9. 15. 00	
abate for paper 6 reams &	2. 05. 00
finding paper for ye impression	12. 00. 00
By Bro Green	
Snod Books he had of Bro. Green	
Printed by Mr Day	
Psa Booke 141: 13: 4	Paper 29. 0. 0
Law Booke 42: 10: 0	5. 05. 0
Mr Norris's 0: 10: 0	1. 0. 0
191: 13. 4	Pap ^r 35. 05. 0
87. 01. 3	Printing 2. 5. 0
Remains	104: 12: 1
	33. 0. 0
	15. 16. 3
	13. 0. 0
Capt Laws	
Spelg Books	
Narragansett	
Paper	10. 00. 0
	114. 12. 1
	2. 0. 0
	97. 1. 3
Extract to Mr Dunster	114. 12. 1
to printing	61. 00. 00
to paper	37. 05. 00
	248. 17. 01
Paper	38. 10
Print	61. 16. 03
Mr Dunster	100. 06. 03
	114. 12. 01
	214. 18. 04
Bro Green thinks about	
30 Rheams paper left	

78. 00. 00	
5. 00. 0	
3. 05. 0	
6. 15. 0	
5. 15. 0	
42. 10. 0	
9. 00. 0	
9. 15. 0	
for the whole 5 th	
Almanacks & theses 5 years	
Almanacks 13 ^s 4 ^d p ann.	
rest	3. 05
6. 15	
Paper	0. 15. 00
to the Printer	6. 00. 00
Indian Primer	10. 00 - 00
rest 6-15-0	6. 15
11. 05. 0	
11. 05. 0	
abate for printing	9. 0. 0
for paper	2. 05. 0
Mr Mathers's booke 7 sheets 2 &	18. 00. 00
for the whole	
Freeman's Oath	
Psa booke 33 sheets 1700 collated	
sold at 20 ^d a piece	40 31 14 th
to abate for printing	33. 00. 00
Spent 116 Rheams pap ^r	40: 13: 80
worth a Rheam	29: 0: 0
79: 13: 04	
The Capital Laws These might take	
The Spelling Books 7 Rheams of paper	
The Declaration of the Narragansett	
Warr 1648:	
The Lawe Booke 17: sheet 600: collated	
Sould at 17 ^d a booke	42: 10: 00
to abate for printing	15: 16: 03
Spent 21 Rheams of paper	29: 13: 60
at 5 th . 05. 00	5. 05. 00
	60. 8. 12
In Norriss's Katechism	
about 3 Rheam Paper	7. 10. 00
to abate for printing	1. 00. 00
	3. 00. 00
7 - 10. 00	3. 10. 00
	79. 13. 04
	21. 08. 09
	104. 12. 01

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