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PRINTING IN PRINCETON BEFORE
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

An Exhibition in the Princetoniana Room
Princeton University Library
February 15 to April 15, 1963

CATALOGUE compiled by Earle E. Coleman

PRINCETON PRINTERS

1786-1787

James Tod

1820-1829

David A. Borrenstein 1824-1828

Connolly and Madden 1828-1829

Hugh Madden 1829

Bernard Connolly 1829

1830-1839

Hugh Madden 1830

William D'Hart 1830-1831

D'Hart and Connolly 1831-1832

John T. Robinson 1833-1839

Robert E. Hornor 1833-1839

Baker and Connolly 1833

John Gray 1833

Moore Baker 1834

John Bogart 1835-1839

1840-1849

John T. Robinson 1840-1849

Robert E. Hornor 1840-1841

John Bogart 1840-1841

1850-1859

John T. Robinson 1850-1859

Howard V. Hulfish 1855-1856

Mrs. E. Hulfish 1856

1860-1869

John T. Robinson 1860-1865

John A. Robinson 1865

H.T. Blanchard 1865-1866

Charles S. Robinson 1866-1869

1870-1879

Charles S. Robinson 1870-1879

1880-1889

Charles S. Robinson 1880-1889

William C.C. Zapf 1883-1886, 1889

1890-1905

Charles S. Robinson 1890-1905

William C.C. Zapf 1890-1905

1905-

Princeton University Press

This list includes only those printers who issued separate publications under their own imprints between 1786 and 1905.

MOST NOTABLE PRINCETON NEWSPAPERS

American System and Farmers'
and Mechanics' Advocate
September-December 1832
R.E. Hornor



Princeton Whig
January 1833-August 1854
R.E. Hornor 1833-1842
J.T. Robinson 1842-1854

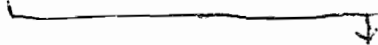


Princeton Press
August 1854-December 1860
J.T. Robinson

Mercer County Mirror
April 1855-1856
H.V. [and E.?] Hulfish



Princeton Standard
August 1859-December 1860
J. Breist and J.R. Hedden,
Publishers; H.T. Blanchard
was apparently the printer.



Princeton Standard
January 1861-April 1870
J.T. Robinson 1861-1865
J.A. Robinson 1865
H.T. Blanchard 1865
J.A. and C.S. Robinson 1865
C.S. and H.L. Robinson 1866-1870



Princetonian
April 1870-December 1872
C.S. Robinson



Princeton Press
January 1873-February 1916
C.S. Robinson 1873-1905

The exhibition was arranged in chronological order, one case for the 18th century, and beginning with the 1820's a case for every decade of the 19th century and one case for the first decade of the 20th century. The first item shown was a copy of one of the eleven known issues of The Princeton Packet published by James Tod between June 1786 and June 1787. The other issues are in the libraries of The New Jersey Historical Society, Rutgers the State University, The Minnesota Historical Society and Princeton University. This Library has a photographic reproduction of all the issues compiled and presented by Mr. Bernard Kilgore. The issue shown was for October 5, 1786, volume 1, number 16.

Next were shown the other known publications of James Tod, the only printer who worked in Princeton before 1824. He also operated the village bookstore and advertised his wares in the Packet. Among the books he advertised was President Witherspoon's An Essay on Money as a Medium of Commerce.

Although editions of it appeared in 1786 and 1787 in New York and Charleston, none has been found bearing Tod's imprint.

2. *Catalogus collegii Neo-Caesariensis*. Princeton, James Tod, 1786.

3. Witherspoon, John. *Christian magnanimity: a sermon*. Princeton, James Tod, 1787.

4. Muir, James. *Sermons by James Muir, A.M., minister of the Presbyterian Church, Bermuda*. James Tod, 1787.

David A. Borrenstein, who probably learned his trade in the printing office of the London Society for Promoting Christianity, worked in Princeton from 1824 until 1828. His output consisted of at least seventy titles and several magazines, newspapers and series of tracts. The issuing of tracts in series was a device used by many publishers of the day to take advantage of the lower postal rates for periodicals.

5. American Society for Meliorating the Condition of Jews. Princeton Auxiliary. The second report. Borrenstein, 1824.
6. North American Review. Extracts...on the subject of the American Colonization Society. Borrenstein, 1824.
7. New Jersey Colonization Society. Proceedings of a meeting held at Princeton, New-Jersey, July 14, 1824. To form a society... Borrenstein, 1824.
8. Gibson, Robert. Help from on high...a sermon. Borrenstein, 1824.
9. Lindsley, Philip. A sermon delivered in the chapel of the College of New Jersey. Borrenstein, 1824.
10. Frelinghuysen, Theodore. Oration...at Princeton...before the New Jersey Colonization Society. Borrenstein, 1824.
11. Princeton Library Company. Catalogue of books belonging to the Princeton Library Company, January 1, 1825. Borrenstein [1825].
12. Series of tracts on practical religion, consisting of selections from the works of various authors. Princeton Press, 1824-25. 2 vols.
13. Scougal, Henry. The life of God in the soul of man... To which is prefixed a short memoir of the author; also, Rules for a Holy life, by Archbishop Leighton. Princeton Press, 1825.
14. Aeschylus. Seven before Thebes...printed from the text of Schütz, under the care of the Senior Class of Nassau Hall. Princeton Press, 1826. Printed in Greek.
15. American Magazine of Letters & Christianity, vol. 1, nos. 1-4. Gibson, 1826.
16. More, Hannah. Sacred dramas. To which are added Reflections of King Hezekiah, Sensibility a poem, and Search after happiness. Princeton Press, 1826.

17. New Jersey Sunday School Journal. Borrenstein, 1827-28.
18. Baxter, Richard. A call to the unconverted. 2d Princeton edition. Borrenstein, 1827.
19. Princeton University. Nassau Hall Tract Society. Future punishment. Nassau Hall Tract Society [1827?].
20. Plain and easy catechism, suitable for children of a tender age and adapted to the use of families and Sabbath Schools; by a Lady of New Jersey. Sunday School Union, 1828.
21. Bible. New Testament. German. Neue Testament...nach... Luther's Uebersetzung. Borrenstein, 1828.
22. Receipt from Borrenstein to the Treasurer of the Library and Philosophical Society of New Jersey.
23. Bayard, Samuel. An address delivered on Thursday, the 14th August, 1828...for the due observation of the Lord's day. Princeton Press: Published by Wm. D'Hart, Connolly & Madden, Printers, 1828.
24. Ingersoll, Joseph R. An address delivered in the Church at Princeton, the evening before the annual commencement of the College of New Jersey, September 23, 1828. Princeton Press: Printed for the Societies, by Connolly & Madden, 1828.
25. Maclean, John. A lecture on a school system for New Jersey. Princeton Press: Connolly & Madden, Printers, 1829.
26. Carnahan, James. Baccalaureate. A discourse delivered to the Senior Class in the College of New Jersey...September, 1829. Published at the request of the Class, Hugh Madden, Printer, 1829.
27. Miller, Samuel. The importance of mature preparatory study for the ministry: an introductory lecture, delivered ...July 3, 1829. Princeton Press: Printed by Bernard Connolly for the Students of the Theological Seminary, 1829.
28. New Jersey Missionary Society. A statement of the proceedings of the Princeton Corresponding Executive Committee. Hugh Madden, Printer, 1830.
29. Carnahan, James. Filial duty. A discourse, delivered... December 27, 1829. Printed by Hugh Madden, 1830.
30. [Bray, Mrs. Anna Eliza (Kempe) Stothard]. Secret instructions of the Jesuits. Printed verbatim from the London copy of 1725. To which is prefixed an historical essay, with an appendix of notes. J. & T. Simpson, 1831. Two editions shown.
31. Vethake, Henry. An introductory lecture on political economy; delivered at Nassau Hall, January 31, 1831. Printed by Wm D'Hart, 1831.

32. Southard, Samuel L. An address delivered before the Alumni Association of Nassau Hall, on the day of the annual commencement of the College, September 26, 1832. Printed by D'Hart and Connolly, 1832.
33. Halyburton, Thomas. Memoirs of the Rev. Thomas Halyburton... With an introductory essay by Robert Burns...and a Preface by Archibald Alexander. Printed and Published by Baker & Connolly. J. Leavitt, New York; and J. Whetham, Philadelphia, 1833.
34. Biddle, Nicholas. An address, delivered before the Alumni Association of Nassau Hall, on the day of the annual commencement of the College, September 30, 1835. Printed by Robert E. Hornor, 1835.
35. New Jersey Lyceum. Paper no. 1; circular of the executive committee. Hornor, 1834.
36. Monthly journal of education. Baker, 1835.
37. Carnahan, James. An address to the students of the College of New Jersey, at the funeral of Gerard Seymour Hooe, from Virginia, lately a member of the Junior Class. Printed by Robert E. Hornor, 1836
38. [Miller, Samuel]. Brief history of the Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church at Princeton, New Jersey. John Bogart, 1838.
39. Celebration of the Fourth of July, 1839, at Nassau Hall. Morning exercises. R.E. Hornor, Printer, 1839. Broadside program.
40. Clarke, Daniel Edward. Travels in various countries of Europe; Asia, and Africa. New York, D. Huntington, 1814. 2 vols. The second volume containing the bookplate of Robert E. Hornor was shown.
41. A gem from Nassau's casket. [John Bogart's Printing Office] 1840.
42. Worrell, Charles Flavel. A catechism of the rudiments of music, designed for the assistance of teachers... 2d ed. enlarged. Printed by J. Bogart, 1840.
43. Wakeman, Thaddeus B. Address delivered at Trenton, before the New Jersey State Agricultural Society, Feb. 12, 1840. Printed by Robert E. Hornor, 1840.
44. Maclean, John. Examination of the essays Bacchus and Anti-Bacchus. Bogart, 1841.

John T. Robinson was obviously the dominant figure among printers in Princeton during the middle decades of the 19th century. He learned his trade in Hornor's shop and bought The Princeton Whig from Hornor in 1842. He invented a press which he named the Princeton Press and built a foundry to manufacture them. In addition, he was one of Princeton's foremost citizens, holding the offices of Postmaster, Mayor, and Judge of Mercer County Court of Common Pleas. He was the father of John A., Harvey L., and Charles S., all printers and publishers. Exhibited was a letter of John T. Robinson to E.N. Dickerson dated January 23, 1847 concerning the copyright of Henry's Aphorisms. Dickerson was clerk of the Federal District Court, a former student of Joseph Henry, and a future patent attorney of note. Also shown was the certificate signed by President Lincoln appointing Robinson Deputy Postmaster of Princeton.

45. Snodgrass, W.D. Perfect sanctification: an article from the Princeton Review for July, 1842. Printed by John T. Robinson, 1842.

46. Zabriskie, James C. An oration delivered on the Fourth of July at Princeton, New Jersey. Robinson, 1843.

47. Carnahan, James. The dangers of a college life; a discourse delivered in Nassau Hall. Printed by John T. Robinson, 1843.

48. [Dod, William Armstrong]. History of the College of New Jersey, from its commencement, A.D. 1746, to 1783. J.T. Robinson, 1844.

49. Nassau monthly, 1844. Printed by John T. Robinson.

50. Alexander, Stephen. Syllabus of...lectures on astronomy. Part I. Printed (Not Published). John T. Robinson, Printer, 1845. Interleaved with blank leaves on which students solved problems.

51. Henry, Joseph. The coast survey. An article from the Princeton review, for April, 1845. Printed by John T. Robinson, 1845.
52. Henry, Matthew. The Rev. Matthew Henry's aphorisms on the ministry, the church, and other kindred subjects. Compiled by the Rev. Colin McIver. Published by George Thomson, 1847.
53. Princeton University. The first centennial anniversary of the College of New Jersey. Celebrated June, 1847. Printed by John T. Robinson, 1848.
54. The Nassau literary magazine, 1848. Printed by John T. Robinson.
55. Hierosolyma, and Milton's dream. John T. Robinson, Printer, 1850.
56. Schenck, William Edward. Address delivered at the funeral of Anna Maria Walton. Robinson, 1850.
57. Princeton University. Board of Trustees. Laws of the College of New Jersey. Robinson, 1851.
58. Schenck, William Edward. The parting commendation. A farewell sermon preached in the First Presbyterian Church at Princeton, N.J. April 4th, 1852. Princeton, N.J. [John T. Robinson?] 1852.
59. Princeton University. A catalogue of the officers and students of the College of New Jersey for the academical year 1854-5. Printed by John T. Robinson, 1855.
60. Princeton University. Catalogue of the officers and students of the College of New Jersey for the academical year 1855-6. Printed by Howard V. Hulfish, 1856.
61. Cattell, William C. Address at the anniversary exercises of the Literary Society at Edgehill School, Princeton, N.J., March 27, 1856. Howard V. Hulfish, 1856.
62. Princeton Theological Seminary. Catalogue of the Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church at Princeton, N.J., 1856-57. Mrs. E. Hulfish, 1856.
63. Lytle, Thomas G. Address delivered before the Young Men's Literary Association at the occasion of their annual exercises on the Fourth of July. Princeton Press Office, 1858.
64. Memorabilia sophomorum, edita et publicata a Tyrone Classe, in Collegio Neo Caesariensis. Oppidum Principis, 1859.
65. Holden, Edgar A. Success. A poem, delivered in the chapel, of the College of New Jersey, May 16, 1859. Printed by John T. Robinson, 1859.

66. Guyot, Arnold Henry. Carl Ritter; an address to the American Geographical and Statistical Society. (From the Journal of the Amer. Geograph. Society, Vol. II, No. I.) Princeton, N.J., 1860.

67. Princeton University. Class of 1864. Honorary orations of the Junior Class. "Princeton Standard" Print., 1863. Program for the occasion.

68. Trial of Charles Lewis for the murder of James Rowand of Princeton, N.J. [Published at the "Standard" Office] 1863.

It was Charles S. Robinson who succeeded to John T.'s place in Princeton history. When, in 1873, he re-established his father's Princeton Press he editorialized that "A few of our kind readers have got into the habit of regularly growling about the paper," referring to its predecessor, The Princetonian. He complained that "there is not much news to be picked up in Princeton" and "if it were left to Princeton to support the paper, it would die of starvation in three months." In order to increase its value to his advertisers he reduced the subscription price one half "so that everybody can afford to take it." Whitney Darrow has reminisced that in later years Robinson was not avid to collect from either subscribers or advertisers. Like his father, Charles was a Mayor and Postmaster of Princeton, and was also Commissioner of Deeds, a Notary Public, and a benefactor of the Princeton University Library.

69. Billhead of Charles S. Robinson, Book and Job Printing Office with advertisement for The Standard, 186_.

70. Broadside advertisement for the "Standard" Job Printing Office, ca. 1865.

71. Princeton University. Class of 1871. The revelation of the deeds of '70 and '68 by '71. Standard Job Printing Office [1868].
72. Alexander, Steoehen. Address delivered on the eighty-ninth anniversary of the national independence, at Princeton, N.J. Printed at the Standard Book and Job Office, 1865.
73. Brown, A.D. Catalogue of the genera, helix, anastoma... in the collection, A.D. Brown, Princeton, N.J. Blanchard, Printer, Journal Book & Job Office [1866].
74. Princeton University. Inauguration of Rev. James M'Cosh [sic], D.D., LL.D., as President of Princeton College, October 27, 1868. Printed at the Standard Office, 1868.
75. Princeton University. Inauguration of Rev. James M'Cosh [sic], D.D., LL.D., as President of Princeton College, October 27, 1868. Stelle & Smith, 1868.
76. Princeton University. Gymnastic exhibition for the benefit of the Base Ball Club of Princeton College, Feb. 18, 1871. Robinson, Pr. Program for the occasion.
77. Princeton University. Class of 1872. The Nassau herald. Class Day, Monday, June 24, 1872. C.S. Robinson.
78. Princeton University. Class of 1874. The Nassau herald. Class Day, Monday, June 22, 1874. Printed at the "Press" Office.
79. Kase, Karl. History of the Class of '72, at Princeton. Charles S. Robinson, 1872.
80. The Princeton Press Printing Office, C.S. Robinson, Proprietor. Our circular! [ca. 1870]. Broadside.
81. Jacobus, Melancthon W. The higher education. An address delivered before the literary societies of the College of New Jersey. Printed by C.S. Robinson, 1874.
82. Shields, Charles Woodruff. Calendar of the College of New Jersey for the academical year, 1871-72. Charles S. Robinson, 1872.
83. Princeton University. Class of 1876. "The spirit of '76," being a history of the Class of 1876, of Princeton College by John T. Duffield. Charles S. Robinson, 1876.
84. Duffield, John T. A discourse on the history of the Second Presbyterian Church of Princeton, N.J. Printed at the "Press" Printing Establishment, 1876.

85. Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Presbytery of New Brunswick. A full copy of all the records...in the case of Rev. John Miller, together with his appeal. Press Printing Establishment, 1877.

86. Duffield, John T. A sermon delivered in the chapel of the College of New Jersey, Dec. 10th, 1876. Press Printing Establishment, 1877.

William C.C. Zapf was another colorful figure in the Princeton book trade before the advent of the Princeton University Press. Starting as a dealer whose primary interest was music, he learned printing in the establishment of Charles S. Robinson. He became a music typographer and also spent a year at the famous press of Theodore De Vinne. He was a printer of several periodicals originating with various groups in the University. He also did job printing at 2 Nassau Street and it was his plant and that of Charles Robinson which were purchased and first used by the originators of the Princeton University Press.

87. Princeton musical journal. Published and presented by Wm. C.C. Zapf. The Press Printing Establishment, 1879-80.

88. Princeton courier, and literary register, vol. 1, no. 41, October 8, 1831.

89. Princeton standard, new series, vol. II, no. 47. November 21, 1862.

90. Full proceedings of the inquest relative to the murder of the late James Fowand. [Princeton Standard, 1862]. Broadside.

91. The Nassau herald, no. 2, June 1865. "Princeton Standard" Job Printing Office, 1865.

92. Princeton Standard -- Extra. April 7, 1865. Richmond taken!!! Broadside.

93. Princeton standard, new series, vol. V, no. 16, April 28, 1865.

94. Princeton press, vol. 71, no. 28, July 31, 1901.
95. Cameron, Henry C. Administrator's sale of real estate... House and lot, know as No. 25 Canal Street, in the Borough of Princeton...30th day of January, 1896. Princeton Press, Steam Print, 1896. Broadside.
96. Princeton University. Class of 1886. Know ye all men! That we the invincible class of '86...Freshie...Proclamation ...forbidden...a cane, until the first day of January, 1887. 1883. Broadside.
97. Princeton University. Class of 1885. Riled! Rattled! Rushed!... In view of the utter helplessness of the timid freshmen, they will be permitted to carry canes. [1882?] Broadside.
98. Princeton University. Class of 1899. Hear ye! Hear ye! ... '99 sacra buncha triennial reunion... [1902?]. Broadside.
99. Hodge, Charles W. The work of missions essential to the life of the church. A sermon delivered in the Seminary chapel November 7th, 1880. Press Printing Establishment, 1880.
100. Thompson, C.V. Class ode of '83. Wm. C.C. Zapf, Music Typographer [1879?].
101. Schanck, John Stillwell. Notes on anatomy. C.S. Robinson, 1883.
102. Princeton Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1. Constitution and By-Laws...adopted April 11, 1884. C.S. Robinson & Co., 1884.
103. Princeton, N.J. Revised charter of the Borough of Princeton. Princeton Press, 1885.
104. Princeton, N.J. Ivy Hall. Catalogue of Ivy Hall Library. The Princeton Press, 1886.
105. Mapes, A.S. Class ode of '86. Wm. C.C. Zapf, Music Typographer [1886?].
106. Princeton, N.J. St. Paul's Church. Exercises at the silver jubilee of Rev. Thomas R. Moran. The Princeton Press, 1886.
107. Princeton packet. Calendar of the most important local events recorded in the Princeton Press during 1883-1890. [Princeton Packet] 1884-1890.
108. Princeton University. Princeton College minstrels. Programme, entertainment given for the benefit of the Base Ball Cage, Friday, March 23, 1888. The Princeton Press.

109. Princeton University. Dramatic Association and University Glee Club. Po-ca-hon-tas or the gentle savage. The Zapf Press [1890?]. Program for the performance.
110. Princeton business directory, 1891-1892. [Wm C.C. Zapf?]
111. Princeton University. Dramatic Association. Katherine, a travesty by John Kendrick Bangs. Zapf, 1892. Program.
112. Princeton University. Class of 1891. '91 class songs. The Zapf Press.
113. Princeton University. Class of 1893. '93 class songs. Zapf Printing Office.
114. Princeton University. Triangle Club. The Hon. Julius Caesar. Zapf Press, 1894. Program.
115. Purves, George T. The church as a factor in civilization. Princeton Press, 1896.
116. Princeton University. Syllabus on Bryce's American commonwealth. Princeton Press [1896].
117. Princeton Press. Type used at the Princeton Press Printing Establishment. [Princeton Press, 1894]. Specimen book.
118. Princeton, N.J. Present Day Club. Constitution and by-laws, 1898. The Princeton Press.
119. Patton, Francis Landley. The duty of self-control. An address...in Marquand Chapel..., January 30, 1898. Princeton University Press.
120. Princeton University. Pamphlet of information concerning the American Whig and Cliosophic societies. The Zapf Press, 1898.
121. Princeton University. Princeton in the Spanish-American War. Princeton Press, 1898.
122. Princeton University. Official souvenir score card of the Yale-Princeton baseball game, University Field, Princeton, N.J. Saturday, June 10, 1899. The Princeton Press.
123. Satterlee, Henry Yates. The ethics of American civilization in its national and political aspects. Princeton Publishing Co., 1900.
124. Princeton tiger, 1900-1901. Zapf Press.

125. Princeton information. Guide to strangers... compiled by John H. Stillwell. [Princeton Press? 1901].
126. Princeton University. Official souvenir score card of the Princeton-Yale baseball game Princeton, N.J. Season of 1901. Princeton Press.
127. Princeton, N.J. Council. Financial report of the Borough of Princeton, 1893-1908. Princeton Press.
128. Franklin Sales Company. Pleasure in business. The Falcon Press, 1908.
129. Collins, Varnum Lansing. Early Princeton. Princeton University Press, 1911.

The names of the men who were doing the actual printing at the end of our period are listed in the town directory; the first one; published in 1888, lists eight compositors. The 1904-05 directory names eighteen compositors and printers. Some of these men worked for themselves issuing short-lived newspapers and doing job printing. Others would break away later, like John Grogan who set up The Falcon Press in Princeton, and like John Stillwell who moved to Bradford, Vermont where he established The Opinion Press and continued to publish the Princeton directory for several years. Still others stayed on and went to work for the Princeton University Press.

In the earliest days of printing in Princeton the printer was a man who had learned his trade, bought a press, and learned to publish. At the end of the period exhibited Whitney Darrow was an editor and publisher's representative who bought a press, and then saw one for the first time. It is very doubtful that Charles Robinson did any actual work in the pressroom at 32 Nassau Street for several decades before he sold out to the Princeton University Press.