

It seems that this man was well remembered in Portsmouth as always having a "dew-drop" on his nose, which he generally absorbed in a red silk handkerchief before entering on a political argument with his friends. Another is described in this wise:

"Bob Logic next in anger stood
With goggles sparkling, bright and good
A lusty lout;
Had he when wasting time at school
Been taught this applicable rule,
'Silence is better for a fool
Than speaking out,'
He'd saved his friends the burning shame
Of coupling folly with his name," etc.

One of those present at the meeting had the temerity to attack the *Gazette* in one of a proposed series of resolutions. He gets it as follows, and with this quotation we will pass to other matters:

"Among the resolutions passed
Was one that all the rest surpassed,
I know not whose soft brain produced it,
But think Bob Logic introduced it;
It disapproved of the GAZETTE!
What knave I ask e'er liked it yet!
It said it told distorted stories!
So said in '78 the Tories.
It said it had much mischief done!
So said the foes of Jefferson,
When foreign tyrants sought t' enslave
Our free-born sons on ocean's wave.
It said its statements had brought down
Contempt and slander on the town!
So said this self-same party when
The British Lion left his den
And on our borders howling stood,
And laved his tongue in our best blood!
Then was the old GAZETTE abused,
Then were its friends as now, ill-used—
So let it be for when they raise
In its behalf the meed of praise,
Be sure it is no longer sound,
But with our country's foes is found—
May every curse befall us yet
Ere Tories praise the old GAZETTE."

This was not a bad defense.

Virginia possessed two regular newspapers before the Revolution. Both were called by the same name, the *Virginia Gazette*, and they were published simultaneously in the same town. Strangely enough, no confusion seems to have resulted from this custom. In those days almost all the newspapers seem to have been called "Gazettes," and in the case cited the difficulty was no doubt obviated by calling one of the journals *Smith's Gazette*, and the other *Brown's* or *Jones' Gazette*. Although Virginia had these two newspapers before the war of the Revolution, neither of them seems to have made much impression, and it is likely that they were not of any great political importance.

Eight newspapers were established during the first year of the Revolutionary War, an indication that the value of these journals as a means for mutual encouragement, for moral support, for political unity, and as a convenient method of spreading the news of victory, or of giving hope and comfort in disaster, was fully considered. It is to be observed, also, that the uses of these little printed messengers as a means of advertising were beginning to be better understood. This is shown in the names which were adopted for some of the new journals. The *Packet and Advertiser*, in New York, and the *Journal and Advertiser*, in Boston, both started in 1776, are cases in point. This larger use of the name "Advertiser" is an indication, at least, that much more attention was being paid to the importance of advertisements in the two chief commercial cities of the Colonies. The *Journal and Advertiser*—its whole name was THE CONTINENTAL JOURNAL AND WEEKLY ADVERTISER, was in some respects a fair example of the newspapers of the day. It was one of those journals which, no doubt, aided in producing that style of literary tone which eventuated in the naming of Boston "The Athens of America." It published in its columns, as a serial, the whole of Robertson's "History of America," a typographical enterprise which it took two years to accomplish. One may imagine how tired and sick the good people of Boston must have been of the very name of that profound work. It is told of an English newspaper that, being short of copy in its early days, it published selections from the Old Testament in several of its issues. But this was absorbingly interesting, compared with the Boston journalistic feat, for it is related that the matter was really new to the readers of the English journal.

The first regular paper published in New Jersey, was the *Gazette*, issued in 1777. New York had established a merely literary periodical in New Jersey as early as the year 1738; but the *Gazette* was New Jersey's first newspaper. It was started by Isaac Collins, a Quaker printer of energy and enterprise, who issued it regularly until the year 1786, when it was crowded out of sight by other papers. In 1778 the New Jersey *Journal* was established, at Catham. Its editor,