Book Trade Labels at the American Antiquarian Society

Bookbinders, booksellers, and printers often stuck onto the paste-down flyleaves of their wares labels which advertised their services. What follows are illustrations of examples from the AAS collection. These pages are not intended to instruct, but are published with the hope that the designs will delight the viewer. We also use this means of informing the reader that the Society has a considerable collection of such labels—in volumes and out. We have been pursuing them for a good many years, as the following note by Clarence Brigham well indicates:

This collection of book-sellers labels was started by the purchase in the 1920s, at N.Y. auction for a small sum, of a scrapbook of labels, evidently formed by some collector living in Lancaster, Penn. As labels came to the Library, frequent additions were made to the scrapbook, although no effort was made to remove labels from volumes. In 1954 Mr. H. H. Evans, the San Francisco bookseller who collects only California labels, sent us about fifty labels. In 1955, we acquired from B. Tighe a collection of about 400 labels, half of which turned out to be lacking and were inserted in the scrapbook. The collection at present (Jan. 1956) numbers about 1700 labels. In December 1955 Harold C. Holmes, Oakland, Calif., donated about 200 labels. C. S. B.

In 1963 the labels were removed from the scrapbook and were mounted on 3 x 5 inch catalogue cards. They completely fill a card catalogue drawer. Also, we file therein reference notes concerning labels which appear in bound volumes in the stacks or about examples in the trade card collection. We continue to make additions to the collection whenever possible. So, what follows is a sampling of a large number of interesting typographic tidbits to which we invite your attention.

M. A. McC.

- Andrew Barclay, Boston, next Door but one North of the Three Kings, in Cornhill, 1764-1776.
- Henry Knox, Boston, Cornhill, 1771-1775. Label engraved by Nathaniel Hurd.
- 3. Robert B. Thomas, Sterling, Mass., 1792.
- 4. Tappan & Foster, Portsmouth, N.H., 1812-1816.
- 5. Guy C. Marsh, New Haven, Conn., Chapel-Street, 1818.
- 6. Lincoln & Edmands, Boston, 53 Cornhill, 1807-1832.
- 7. Abel Bowen, Boston, Columbian Museum, Tremont Street, ca. 1825.
- 8. Benjamin Gomez, New York, 97 Maiden Lane, 1792.
- 9. David Longworth, New York, 11 Park, 1796-1798.
- 10. Thomas B. Jansen and Co., New York, 248 Pearl-Street, 1799-1804.
- 11. William Williams, Utica, New York, 60 Genesee-Street, 1807-1824.
- 12. Isaac T. Doughty, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., ca. 1820.
- 13. Henry P. Russell, Morristown, N.J., 1801-1817.
- 14. Jane Aitken, Philadelphia, 20 North Third Street, 1802-1817.
- Samuel Taylor, Philadelphia, Corner of Market & Water Street, ca. 1800.
- John Dunlap, Philadelphia, Newest Printing-Office, Market-Street, 1768-1777.
- 17. Thomas Dobson, Philadelphia, 41 South Second Street, 1786-1816.
- 18. Thomas Condie, Philadelphia, 1795-1814.
- 19. John Sparhawk, Philadelphia, 1750-1767.
- 20. Henrich Miller, Lancaster, Penn., Ost-Oranien-Strasse, 1751-1752?
- 21. David McKeehan, Pittsburgh, 1807.
- 22. Henry Vicary, Baltimore, 50 Pratt Street, 1819-1833.
- 23. James Wilson, Wilmington, Del., 1818.
- 24. Jacob D. Dietrick, Hagerstown, Md., 1800-1807.
- 25. William Owens, Lynchburg, Va., ca. 1800.
- 26. Thomas Richards, Augusta, Ga., ca. 1841.
- 27. Ebenezer Watts, Charlottesville, Va., ca. 1830.
- 28. Peter Cottom, Richmond, Va., 2d door above the Eagle Tavern, 1814-1849.
- 29. David Bailey, Charleston, S.C., 247 Meeting-Street, 1796-1809.
- 30. Stowell & Rood, Detroit, Michigan Territory, Jefferson Street, ca. 1830.
- 31. Joseph Israel, Marietta, Ohio, 1808-1812.
- 32. John Rosser, Lafayette, Indiana, ca. 1830.
- 33. William Essex, Lexington, Ky., Main-Street, 1814-1816.

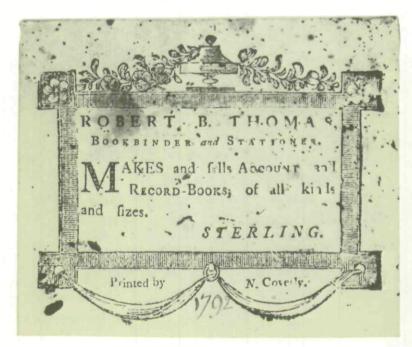


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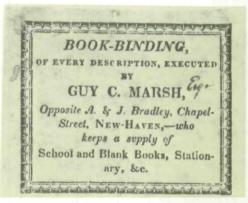
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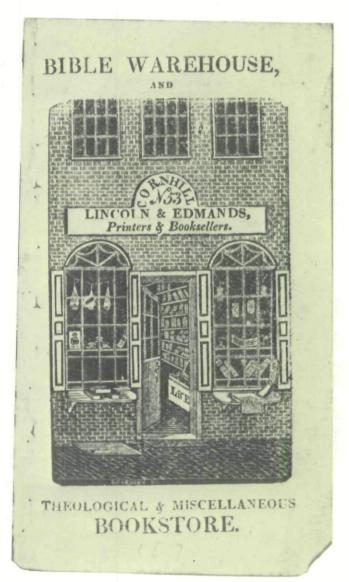
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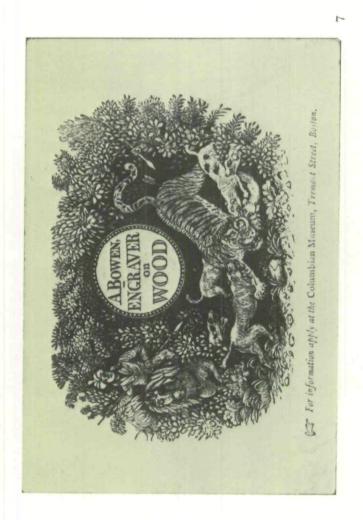
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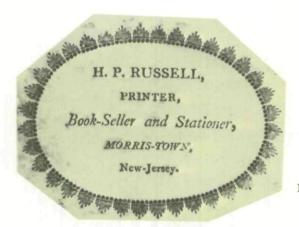


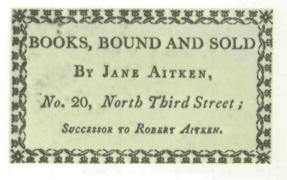
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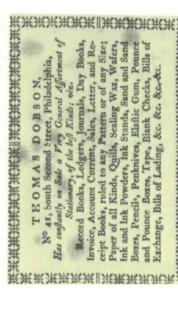














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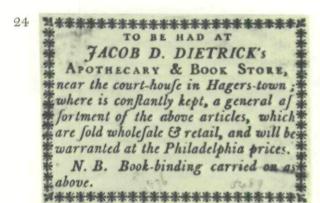
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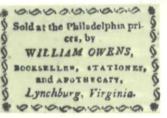
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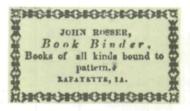
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