

318 O'LYNCH, JOHN

Misidentification of:

273 LYNCH, JOHN

Printer & Publisher

Richmond

Lynch was an émigré from Ireland who trained in the office of Thomas Nicolson (315). When his master died in 1808, he acquired Nicolson's press in conjunction with Charles Southgate (395); the name of their firm – Lynch & Southgate – has led to confusion over both his identity and surname. At about that time, Lynch began using the middle initial "O." to distinguish himself from the successful Richmond merchant John Lynch, who also owned "Lynch's Coffee House." Such usage, as well as his Irish origins, led to representations of his surname as O'Lynch. Between 1808 and 1812, the two name-forms are seen frequently in newspaper advertising; that they refer to this one tradesman can be seen in the notices published by Southgate while settling Lynch's estate in 1812 that use both forms interchangeably.