

436 WELCH, JOHN JR.

Printer

Fredericksburg

Printer who died in Fredericksburg in September 1800.

The only evidence of Welch in the printing trade is seen in the notice of his death published in the *Virginia Herald* of Timothy Green (194):

"Died- Mr. John Welch, Junior, printer, yesterday, in the neighborhood of this town."

The brevity of this notice, and so the lack of personal detail, makes any identification of him speculative. But the Episcopal Church in Fredericksburg then had a John Welch among its vestrymen, suggesting that the printer was his son; that possibility is bolstered by Green's long association with that church, further suggesting a close relationship between Welch and Green that could have led to Green's training of an adolescent son as a printer. It is interesting as well that the contemporaneous *Genius of Liberty* of Fredericksburg did not report Welch's passing, suggesting his association with Green's *Virginia Herald*. But lacking any direct evidence of Welch's life, a full identification is essentially impossible.

Personal Data

Died: Sept. 15 1800 near Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Sources: Notice in [Fredericksburg] *Virginia Herald*, Sept. 16, 1800; Quenzel, *St. George's Episcopal Church*.