

Lineage No.: **CHARLESTON 01**

Group Title: **Kenhawa Spectator**

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**Variant 01: Kenhawa Spectator**

Publication Data: October 21, 1820 to before June 11, 1822 Weekly

Proprietors: Herbert P. Gaines

IVP Associates: Herbert P. Gaines (176)

Notes: Charleston's first newspaper had ties to the town's Presbyterian community and its new Mercer Academy; Gaines was one of its original teachers; he sold the paper to Mason Campbell, the school's librarian, in June 1822; both men were also lawyers.

References: LCCN No. 85-059851; Brigham II: 1169; Norona & Shetler 1200;

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**Variant 02: Western Courier**

Publication Data: June 11, 1822 to before July 5, 1826 Weekly

Proprietors: Mason Campbell

IVP Associates: ---

Notes: Herbert P. Gaines sold Charleston's first newspaper to Mason Campbell, librarian of the Mercer Academy, in June 1822; both men were also lawyers.

References: LCCN No. 85-054129; Norona & Shetler 1203;

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**Variant 03: Western Virginian and Kanawha County Gazette**

Publication Data: July 5, 1826 October 25, 1826 Weekly

Proprietors: Mason Campbell

IVP Associates: ---

Notes: With the issue of July 5, 1826, Campbell recast his paper as the semi-official journal of the western reaches of Virginia.

References: LCCN No. 85-059881; Norona & Shetler 1204;

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**Variant 04: Western Virginian**

Publication Data: October 31, 1826 to before July 15, 1829 Weekly

Proprietors: Mason Campbell

IVP Associates: ---

Notes: With the issue of October 31, 1826, Campbell shortened the title of his paper, without a change in numbering; last known issue is that for May 20, 1829.

References: LCCN No. 84-037804; Norona & Shetler 1204;

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**Variant 05: Western Register**

Publication Data: July 15, 1829 to before January 11, 1830 Weekly

Proprietors: James M. Laidley & Co.

IVP Associates: ---

Notes: Sometime after the issue of May 20, 1829, Campbell sold his weekly paper to brothers James Madison Laidley (1809-86) and Alexander T. Laidley (1807-95), nephews of the former Morgantown publisher John Osborne Laidley (258); they issued the first number of their retitled paper on July 15, 1829.

References: LCCN No. 84-037803; Norona & Shetler 1196;

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**Variant 06: Kanawha Register**

Publication Data: by January 11, 1830 to before September 10, 1830 Weekly

Proprietors: James M. Laidley & Co.

IVP Associates: ---

Notes: Sometime before the issue of January 11, 1830, the Laidley brothers recast their weekly as more of a local paper than a regional one by changing its title; the first known issue under that new masthead is that for January 11, 1830; last known is that for July 25, 1830.

References: LCCN No. 85-059882; Norona & Shetler 1196;

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**Variant 07: Kanawha Banner**

Publication Data: September 10, 1830 to about April 2, 1835 Weekly

Proprietors: Mason Campbell & Ezra Walker

IVP Associates: ---

Notes: With the issue of September 10, 1830, Mason Campbell took back ownership of his old weekly from the Laidley brothers, now in conjunction with Ezra Walker (1802-53); they were forced to suspend publication in January & February 1832, apparently lacking paper to print on; Campbell retired from the concern with the issue of March 19, 1835; last known issue is that for April 2, 1835, after which Walker finally ceased its publication.

References: LCCN No. 84-037806; Norona & Shetler 1193;

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