

Lineage No.: **FREDERICKSBURG 03**

Group Title: **Genius of Liberty**

Variante 01: The Genius of Liberty and Fredericksburg & Falmouth Advertiser

Publication Data: October 13, 1797 to August 31, 1798 Weekly

Proprietors: Mercer & Carter

IVP Associates: Robert Mercer (301), George Carter (082)

Notes: Mercer acquired press of late *Republican Citizen* (ceased in June 1797) and brought Carter in as editor of this new paper; partners adopted a subtitle recently abandoned by Timothy Green's *Virginia Herald* there (with issue of Aug. 23, 1797). Last weekly number issued on August 23, 1798, with first twice-weekly edition issued on September 7, 1798.

References: LCCN No. 84-024676; Brigham II: 1114-15.

Variante 02: The Genius of Liberty and Fredericksburg & Falmouth Advertiser

Publication Data: September 7, 1798 to after December 14, 1798 2/week

Proprietors: Mercer & Carter

IVP Associates: Robert Mercer (301), George Carter (082)

Notes: Weekly converted to twice-weekly with issue of September 7, 1798; plan was announced in other papers above date of August 12th. Last known with Carter's imprimatur is for December 14, 1798, so end date above.

References: LCCN No. 84-024676; Brigham II: 1114-15.

Variante 03: Genius of Liberty

Publication Data: By February 8, 1799 to before April 2, 1799 2/week

Proprietors: Mercer & Pittman

IVP Associates: Robert Mercer (301), Pittman (326)

Notes: Issue of February 8, 1799 is only known for firm of Mercer & Pittman; fire destroyed office of *Genius of Liberty* on April 2, 1799, with account published in Timothy Green's *Virginia Herald* (his office also lost) records partners as Mercer & Field, the successors to Mercer & Pittman, so dates reported here.

References: LCCN No. 84-024677; Brigham II: 1114.

Variante 04: Genius of Liberty

Publication Data: By April 2, 1799 to September 9, 1800 2/week

Proprietors: Mercer & Field

IVP Associates: Robert Mercer (301), Field (161)

Notes: Fire destroyed *Genius of Liberty* office on April 2, 1799, with account published in Timothy Green's *Virginia Herald* (his office also lost) recording partners then as Mercer & Field, so start date here. Mercer died September 11, 1800, making September 9th issue his last, so end date here. Other possible changes uncertain as only 3 issues extant from this period.

References: LCCN No. 84-024677; Brigham II: 1114.

Variant 05: Genius of Liberty

Publication Data: September 12, 1800 to 10 October 1800 2/week

Proprietors: Unrecorded

IVP Associates: Robert Mercer (301)

Notes: Death of Mercer on September 11, 1800 created a void in paper's recorded ownership for one month, though it was likely conducted by his employees for benefit of estate. Paper appeared under new title and owner on October 14, 1800, so end date reported here.

References: LCCN No. 84-024677; Brigham II: 1114.

Variant 06: The Courier

Publication Data: October 14, 1800 to after November 13, 1801 2/week

Proprietors: James Walker

IVP Associates: James Walker (425)

Notes: Walker acquired newspaper and press from estate of Robert Mercer sometime in month after his death; restyled *Courier* appeared without break in numbering or publication days on October 14, 1800. Last issue known extant is for November 13, 1801, so end date here; other papers report suspension and not termination of publication. so connection to his next Fredericksburg paper in September 1803.

References: LCCN No. 85-025097; Brigham II: 1114.

Variant 07: The Apollo

Publication Data: September 3, 1803 to about February 18, 1804 2/week

Proprietors: James Walker

IVP Associates: James Walker (425)

Notes: Walker resurrected his twice-weekly newspaper after a nearly two-year-long suspension; reports of paper's cessation in other papers in March 1804 suggest a simple six-month run for Walker's revival of the *Courier*. Other events uncertain as only 1 issue (November 9, 1803) of the *Apollo* is known extant.

References: LCCN No. 85-025096; Brigham II: 1114.
