

Lineage No.: **STAUNTON 03**

Group Title: **Political Mirror**

Variant 01: Political Mirror or The Scourge of Aristocracy

Publication Data: January 28, 1800 to after June 3, 1800 Weekly (Tues)

Proprietors: James Lyon & Co.

IVP Associates: James Lyon (274), John McArthur (285), John Courtney Jr. (109)

Notes: One of the four papers established by Lyon in winter of 1799-1800 supporting presidential campaign of Thomas Jefferson; paper was printed for him in Staunton by cousin McArthur and journeyman Courtney while he resided in Richmond. Only surviving number issued by this concern is that for June 3, 1800 (l:19), from which its start date is calculated. Subtitle contained in a masthead ornament and has been omitted in some bibliographic sources.

References: LCCN No. 83-026153; Brigham II: 1156.

Variant 02: [Political Mirror or The Scourge of Aristocracy]

Publication Data: About late June 1800 to before May 5, 1801 Weekly

Proprietors: John M'Arthur

IVP Associates: John McArthur (285)

Notes: No surviving issues from this period now known. Lyon withdrew from three of his Virginia journals in summer of 1800, and moved the fourth to Georgetown, D.C., effective August 26, 1800; only surviving number of this title with his imprimatur is issue of June 3, 1800 (l:19), antedating the withdrawals; next surviving issue for May 5, 1801 reports McArthur as sole proprietor and lacks subtitle previously seen in masthead ornament, though the graphic image was still employed; those numbers show that McArthur assumed control of paper sometime in the interim; Courtney married in Richmond in May 1800, and returned there to work shortly thereafter, leaving McArthur alone in Staunton.

References: LCCN No. 83-026153; Brigham II: 1156.

Variant 03: Political Mirror

Publication Data: By May 5, 1801 to before October 6, 1802 Weekly

Proprietors: John M'Arthur

IVP Associates: John McArthur (285)

Notes: Earliest surviving number of this title is issue for May 5, 1801; numbered as no. 4 of vol. II, that issue suggests that a new volume was begun on April 14, 1801; yet, if the journal had been issued the week before that, then the survivor should have been numbered as no. 12 of a 2nd volume, indicating that sometime after issue of June 3, 1800, there was a 12-week suspension of publication. Also, sometime during period between those survivors, McArthur removed subtitle "Scourge of Aristocracy" from its masthead ornament, though continuing to use the image itself, so shortening the paper's title.

Latest surviving number of this title now known is that for September 29, 1801; however,

McArthur received a license from the Jefferson administration to publish the laws enacted by the 1st session of the 7th Congress, which evidently sustained his paper into the fall of 1802; on October 6, 1802, he wrote to Secretary of State James Madison about payment for publishing the laws of that recent session, noting that he had ceased publication of the *Mirror* from a want of funds to purchase paper, so end date reported here.

References: LCCN No. 83-026153; Brigham II: 1156.
