

Lineage No.: **STAUNTON 06**

Group Title: **Republican Farmer**

Variant 01: Staunton Political Censor

Publication Data: May 11, 1808 to about May 5, 1809 Weekly

Proprietors: William G. Lyford

IVP Associates: William G. Lyford (272)

Notes: Federalist weekly built on remains of Lyford's *Candid Review*, which ended publication the preceding fall. Initially he used motto "We are all republicans ... we are all federalists" as indication of his intent to censure departures of Republicans from principles that Jefferson stated in his first inaugural address. Following Madison's inauguration, he altered title to *Republican Farmer* "after the first week in May," so calculated end date reported here, as no numbers survive from this period.

References: LCCN No. 83-026160; Brigham II: 1156.

Variant 02: Republican Farmer

Publication Data: About May 12, 1809 to about May 1810 Weekly

Proprietors: William G. Lyford

IVP Associates: William G. Lyford (272)

Notes: Title altered "after the first week in May," so calculated date reported here, as no Lyford numbers after February 1809 survive. Date of subsequent sale of his paper to Isaac Collett uncertain; bankruptcy of paper mill supplying all Staunton papers in early 1810 compelled suspension of his Republican competitor from February to June that year, so likely also point when Lyford ceased publishing his weekly, with sale coming later. Earliest surviving Collett number reveals paper's third volume/year began September 5, 1810, suggesting a lengthy suspension of publication during paper-shortage and transition to Collett.

References: LCCN No. 85-026865; Brigham II: 1155.

Variant 03: Republican Farmer

Publication Data: About May 1810 to about December 11, 1823 Weekly

Proprietors: Isaac Collett

IVP Associates: Isaac Collett (100)

Notes: Collett acquired Lyford's newspaper sometime between issues of February 22, 1809, and September 5, 1810, the only surviving numbers known from period; citations elsewhere indicate Lyford was still publisher in early 1810, but bankruptcy of paper mill supplying all Staunton papers then suggests a lengthy publication suspension followed. Earliest Collett number now known reveals paper's third volume/year began September 5, 1810, when a continuous run would have started such in May 1810; hence, transfer came prior to that date, possibly as early as May, so calculated started date reported here.

References: LCCN No. 85-026865; Brigham II: 1155; Cappon 1542.

Variant 04: Staunton Spectator and Republican Farmer

Publication Data: About December 18, 1823 to after January 21, 1825 Weekly

Proprietors: Kenton Harper

IVP Associates: Kenton Harper (203)

Notes: Earliest surviving number of Harper's variant now known indicates he acquired Collett's *Republican Farmer* in December 1823, so start date seen here; Harper promptly altered title to add the prefix by which this conservative paper was known for the ensuing ninety-three years. In November 1824, he added the oft-quoted motto of "The man who will not read one newspaper during the week, must truly be the slave of ignorance, or poverty" to his masthead; sometime between the 1825 numbers of January 21st and November 4th, he discontinued that usage.

References: LCCN No. 85-054297; Cappon 1542.

Variant 05: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: Before November 4, 1825 to September 12, 1828 Weekly

Proprietors: Kenton Harper

IVP Associates: Kenton Harper (203)

Notes: Sometime between numbers of January 21 and November 4, 1825 Harper shortened title of his paper the form best known for this weekly.

References: LCCN No. 85-026864; Cappon 1542.

Variant 06: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: September 19, 1828 to February 20, 1829 Weekly

Proprietors: Thomas J. Michie & William Harper

IVP Associates: -----

Notes: With issue of September 19, 1828, Kenton Harper transferred ownership of paper to his younger brother William, in a short-lived partnership with Michie, then a Staunton lawyer, later a noted Virginia jurist.

References: LCCN No. 85-026864; Cappon 1542.

Variant 07: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: February 27, 1829 to September 16, 1831 Weekly

Proprietors: Kenton Harper

IVP Associates: Kenton Harper (203)

Notes: With issue of February 27, 1829, Harper resumed sole ownership of the *Spectator* with dissolution of firm of Michie & Harper; that five-month-long alliance evidently allowed his

brother William to accrue capital needed to begin the *South Branch Intelligencer* in the Hampshire County seat of Romney in 1830, that town's first newspaper; Michie was later involved in papers in both Staunton and Harrisonburg.

References: LCCN No. 85-026864; Cappon 1542.

Variant 08: Staunton Spectator and General Advertiser

Publication Data: September 23, 1831 to September 7, 1832 Weekly

Proprietors: Kenton Harper

IVP Associates: Kenton Harper (203)

Notes: With issue of September 23, 1831, Harper added subtitle to his paper; he continued that usage for just one year, though would resume that form in 1835.

References: LCCN No. 85-026864; Cappon 1542.

Variant 09: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: September 14, 1832 to before July 16, 1835 Weekly

Proprietors: Kenton Harper

IVP Associates: Kenton Harper (203)

Notes: With issue of September 14, 1832, Harper dropped subtitle adopted just a year earlier; he would resume that form in 1835.

References: LCCN No. 85-026864; Cappon 1542.

Variant 10: Staunton Spectator and General Advertiser

Publication Data: By July 16, 1835 to about August 25, 1836 Weekly

Proprietors: Kenton Harper

IVP Associates: Kenton Harper (203)

Notes: Sometime between numbers issued on March 5 and July 16, 1835, Harper resumed use of the longer title he had first adopted September 1831; this was the form that he employed until he sold the *Spectator* in late 1848.

References: LCCN No. 84-024719; Cappon 1542.

Variant 11: Staunton Spectator and General Advertiser

Publication Data: By September 1, 1836 to March 8, 1838 Weekly

Proprietors: K. Harper & J. Sosey

IVP Associates: Kenton Harper (203)

Notes: With issue of September 1, 1836, Harper took Jacob Sosey into partnership in his weekly *Spectator*; Sosey was a journeyman in his office with whom he had formed a partnership in April 1836 to conduct a campaign paper – the *Harrison Advocate or Staunton Spectator Extra* – in support of the candidacy of William Henry Harrison; with four Whig candidates

contending with Van Buren in that presidential election, Harper seems to have seen little reward for his printer's efforts and secured his future by joining him to the weekly paper; Sosey remained his partner for twenty months.

References: LCCN No. 84-024719 & 86-071890; Cappon 1542.

Variant 12: Staunton Spectator and General Advertiser

Publication Data: March 15, 1838 to November 22, 1848 Weekly

Proprietors: Kenton Harper

IVP Associates: Kenton Harper (203)

Notes: With issue of March 15, 1838, Harper resumed sole ownership of the *Spectator* on Jacob Sosey's removal to Missouri; he remained such until selling the paper in November 1848. After having abandoned use of a motto in 1825, he presented on his masthead during the 1840 election: "One presidential term, reduction of executive power, retrenchment and reform." Harper left his paper in unnamed hands when he led a volunteer militia unit to garrison duty along the Mexican border in the summer of 1847; on his return to Virginia in August 1848, he evidently began negotiations to sell the *Spectator*, and so sold the weekly the following November; it is quite likely that those purchasers – Lyttleton and Joseph A. Waddell – conducted the paper in his absence.

References: LCCN No. 84-024719; Cappon 1542.

Variant 13: Staunton Spectator and General Advertiser

Publication Data: November 29, 1848 to December 12, 1849 Weekly

Proprietors: Lyttleton Waddell & Joseph A. Waddell

IVP Associates: ----

Notes: With issue of November 29, 1848, Harper transferred ownership of *Spectator* to kinsmen Lyttleton (uncle) and Joseph A. Waddell (nephew), both lawyers in Staunton, and retired from journalism entirely after four decades in the print trade.

References: LCCN No. 84-024719; Cappon 1542.

Variant 14: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: December 19, 1849 to March 1, 1854 Weekly

Proprietors: Lyttleton Waddell & Joseph A. Waddell

IVP Associates: ----

Notes: With issue of December 19, 1849, the Waddells shortened their weekly's title to the form most often associated with this newspaper.

References: LCCN No. 84-024718; Cappon 1542.

Variant 15: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: March 8, 1854 to May 29, 1860 Weekly

Proprietors: Joseph A. Waddell & Lyttleton Waddell Jr.

IVP Associates: -----

Notes: With issue of March 8, 1854, Lyttleton Waddell sold his interest in the *Spectator* to his son, Lyttleton Jr.; the Waddell cousins then proposed publishing a twice-weekly edition of their paper, while continuing the weekly one, but that variant apparently never issued.

References: LCCN No. 84-024718; Cappon 1542.

Variant 16: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: May 6, 1857 to May 29, 1860 Weekly

Proprietors: Joseph A. Waddell, Lyttleton Waddell Jr., & Richard Mauzy

IVP Associates: -----

Notes: With issue of May 6, 1857, the Waddells absorbed the press and subscriber list of the *True American*, Staunton's Know-Nothing weekly conducted by Richard Mauzy and Dr. George K. Gilmer; the transaction made Mauzy a partner in the *Spectator*.

References: LCCN No. 84-024718; Cappon 1542.

Variant 17: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: June 5, 1860 to May 31, 1864 Weekly

Proprietors: Richard Mauzy

IVP Associates: -----

Notes: On June 1, 1860, the Waddells sold their interests in the *Spectator* to partner Mauzy and retired from journalism to follow careers in the law; Mauzy retained a controlling interest in the weekly until December 1895.

During the secession crisis, Mauzy's *Spectator* kept a Unionist perspective, supporting the 1860 Constitutional Union ticket; but once the state's ordinance of secession was enacted in April 1861, the *Spectator* became an ardent supporter of the Confederacy, though also a critic of the conduct of the war by certain Confederate officers and officials.

On June 7, 1864, Federal forces commanded by Gen. David Hunter arrived in Staunton, as part of that summer's campaign to destroy produce and manufactures that could sustain Lee's Army of Northern Virginia; contrary to orders issued by Hunter's predecessor, those troops ransacked the *Spectator* office – now comprising the assets of three papers – and scattered its types in the city's streets; that action made the number of May 31, 1864 the last one issued until after the war ended.

References: LCCN No. 84-024718; Cappon 1542.

Variant 18: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: About July 11, 1865 to August 15, 1865 Weekly

Proprietors: Strasburg & Argenbright

IVP Associates: -----

Notes: Following the raid on Staunton in June 1864, Mauzy decamped to Lewisburg, where he had lived previously, and remained there until August 1865; during that enforced absence, his two lead journeymen – David Strasburg and Newtown Argenbright – reconstructed the *Spectator* office. Some authorities report the concern of Strasburg & Argenbright resumed publication of the weekly in June 1865, but the content of the only surviving number of the paper bearing their imprimatur (August 4, 1865) points to the start date seen here. Mauzy returned to Staunton shortly thereafter and appears as "editor & publisher" with the issue of August 22, 1865, so the end date seen here. Yet Strasburg and Argenbright retained an interest in the *Spectator* until 1882, as part of the firm of Richard Mauzy & Co.; initially, the printers purportedly took a share of any profits garnered in lieu of wages in the post-war period; how long the arrangement continued in that form is uncertain.

References: LCCN No. 84-024718; Cappon 1542.

Variant 19: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: August 22, 1865 to March 31, 1882 Weekly

Proprietors: Richard Mauzy & Co.

IVP Associates: ----

Notes: With the issue of August 22, 1865, Mauzy returned to the editorial chair of the *Spectator*, though sharing in the paper's profits with journeyman-printers Strasburg and Argenbright; he resumed sole ownership at the end of March 1882, when his trade-partners finally sold their interests in the paper to him, so end date reported here.

References: LCCN No. 84-024718; Cappon 1542.

Variant 20: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: April 1, 1882 to December 4, 1895 Weekly

Proprietors: Richard Mauzy

IVP Associates: ----

Notes: With issue of April 1, 1882, Mauzy resumed sole ownership of the *Spectator* after buying the interests of his journeyman-partners Strasburg and Argenbright; in June 1895, Mauzy began soliciting bids for others to purchase the paper concurrent with his 72nd birthday; that sale completed on December 4th, so the end date reported here.

References: LCCN No. 84-024718; Cappon 1542.

Variant 21: Staunton Spectator

Publication Data: December 11, 1895 to September 2, 1896 Weekly

Proprietors: Rudolph Samuel Turk

IVP Associates: ----

Notes: Following publication of the number for December 4, 1895, Mauzy sold his newspaper at auction to Turk, then a lawyer in Staunton; Turk remained editor until publication ceased in 1916, though in 1910 he sold a controlling interest in the paper to others.

References: LCCN No. 84-024718; Cappon 1542.

Variant 22: Staunton Spectator and Vindicator

Publication Data: September 9, 1896 until sometime in 1916 Weekly

Proprietors: Rudolph Samuel Turk

IVP Associates: -----

Notes: On September 5, 1896, Turk purchased the press office and subscriber list of the *Staunton Vindicator*, then published by Henry C. Tinsley and Arthur S. Morton; he then merged the papers under the new title of *Spectator and Vindicator*, with Morton serving as business agent for the combination and the terminally-ill Tinsley retiring from journalism; the first number of the united journal then issued on September 9, 1896.

Turk continued to edit the paper for rest of its life; yet, he started to divest his interest in the weekly in November 1910 by selling controlling interest to Harold E. West of the *Baltimore Sun*; West sold out to a local group called the Staunton Spectator Corp. in April 1911, which continued as paper's owner until publication ceased sometime in 1916. It remains unclear just how long Morton remained a part of the combined effort.

References: LCCN No. 84-024720; Cappon 1542.
