Imprint No.: 1819.089

Short Title: The Farmer's Almanac for 1820 (Potter).

Author: Beers, Andrew (1749-1824), philomath.

Title: The Farmer's almanac, for the year of our Lord 1820, being bissextile or leap year, and (till

July 4th) the forty-fourth of American independence. Calculated for the horizon and meridian of Philadelphia, lat. 39 deg. 57 m. N. Lon. 75 deg. 10 m. W. but may serve for either of the towns in the state of Pennsylvania, or the adjacent states without any essential difference. ...

By Andbew [sic] Beers, philom.

Place Issued: Wheeling

Issuing Press: Sheldon Potter & Co.

Description: [36 pgs.]; 17 cm. (8vo).

Notes: Largely identical to the Beers almanac issued by Potter's brother Paraclete at Poughkeepsie

(Shaw & Shoemaker 47949); the title page is identical in both (down to misspelling of Beers's first name) except for imprint statement; text and tables through page 31 are of a common origin, though the twelve monthly tables in this edition show a compression of the "Aspects" column from the Poughkeepsie edition, so as to to accommodate an additional "high water" column at the right margin for Philadelphia readers, even as rest of each table is unchanged; the two almanacs differ completely from the bottom of page 31 to the end of text, with each presenting locally-oriented material thereafter. That correspondence indicates both editions were printed by Paraclete Potter in Poughkeepsie, with Sheldon Potter then distributing his

customized variants from his bookstores in Wheeling and Philadelphia.

This almanac evinces the brief business presence of the Potter family in Wheeling, being the only known title with their imprint; Sheldon Potter (1789-1834) emerged as an independent tradesman in 1813 in partnership with his brother Paraclete (1784-1858) in Poughkeepsie; in 1817, he established the firm of S. Potter & Co. on Chestnut Street in Philadelphia, a location that anchored his various business ventures for the rest of his life; in 1819, he started this Wheeling branch store, but evidently kept it open for only a short time; after 1819, Potter is seen only in Philadelphia, where he became a major wholesaler of Pennsylvania paper.

IVP Associated Names: Sheldon Potter (537)

<u>Bibliographic Notations</u>

Early American Imprints? Y Series: 2 Title No.: 47950

Evans, *American Bibliography*: --- Norona/Shetler, *West Virginia*: 7

Bristol, Supplement to Evans: --- Swem, Bibliography of Virginia: --- Shipton/Mooney, Imprints thru 1800: ---

Shaw/Shoemaker, Checklist...1801-19: 47950 Drake, Almanacs of the United States: 14147

Shoemaker, *Checklist...1820-29*: --- Hummel, *Southeastern Broadsides*: --- Hummel, *Virginia Broadsides*: ---