

## 233 INVISIUS, ERRANTO – [ERRANTO INVISIUS]

**Editor & Publisher**

**Staunton**

Editor and publisher of the *Candid Review* at Staunton in the summer of 1807.

The identity of this pseudonymous individual is unknown. William G. Lyford (272) had come to Virginia from New Hampshire in 1804 to assist Samuel Walkup (426) in publishing his *Virginia Telegraphe and Rockbridge Courier* at Lexington. But when that paper closed in October 1804, Lyford moved on to Staunton to publish a successor journal to the Federalist *Phenix* (formerly the *Staunton Gazette*) of John Wise (455). By summer 1807, however, his paper was withering as a result of straitened economic conditions in the central Valley and the introduction of a bilingual competitor, the *Staunton Eagle* of Jacob D. Dietrich (135). In its final few weeks of publication, the *Candid Review* reported "Erranto Invisius, Esq." as its editor and publisher, and not Lyford. The pseudonym, roughly translated as "wandering inspector," suggests that Lyford (the wanderer) then continued the paper while masking his connection to it; and while such a tactic did not save the *Review* – it ceased publishing in about September – Lyford remained in Staunton and launched a new weekly the following spring; his subsequent *Staunton Political Censor* became the long-lived *Staunton Spectator* that survived until the First World War.

***No Personal Data yet discovered.***

Sources: Imprints; Brigham.