

457 WOOD, WILLIAM WALLBRIDGE

Printer

Alexandria

Printer working in Alexandria in 1801, probably for Samuel Snowden (393).

Wood was evidently a part of the Virginia print trade for only a short time. He published a small book in 1800 in the District of Columbia – *St. Hubert or Mistaken Friendship* – that was designed to teach adolescents proper behavior "by example." The next year he was married to a young widow in Alexandria's Presbyterian Church by the Rev. James Muir (306). As notice of the marriage was carried solely in the *Alexandria Advertiser* of Samuel Snowden, it is likely that his office was the place of Wood's employment.

After that event, however, Wood is found in Philadelphia imprints only, ones for which he engraved numerous plate illustrations in the 1820s and 1830s, particularly medical and zoological works. Such employments made him essentially invisible as the publishing trade there became ever less identified with individual tradesmen. City directories indicate that he maintained a stationery store on Walnut Street between 1815 and 1835, so was not dependent on his handiwork alone. But that spare record leaves his fate unknown.

Personal Data

Married: Feb. 19 1801 Eleanor Dixon @ Alexandria, Virginia.

No other personal information yet discovered.

Sources: Imprints; marriage notice in *Alexandria Advertiser* (Feb. 20, 1801); Philadelphia directories, 1815-35.