

Lineage No.: **PETERSBURG 01**

Group Title: **Petersburg Intelligencer**

Variant 01: The Virginia Gazette, and Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: July 6, 1786 to December 11, 1788 Weekly

Proprietors: Hunter & Prentis

IVP Associates: Miles Hunter (229), William Prentis (340)

Notes: Classic mercantile advertiser begun by two Williamsburg (via Richmond) journeymen, who had familial business links in Petersburg; Prentis was encouraged by merchants to start a paper there from February 1786 onward; he brought in Hunter to assist, resulting in July 6th launch; partnership ended by Hunter's unexpected death on December 12, 1788.

References: LCCN No. 84-024506; Brigham II: 1134-1135.

Variant 02: The Virginia Gazette, and Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: December 18, 1788 to before April 2, 1793 Weekly

Proprietors: William Prentis

IVP Associates: William Prentis (340)

Notes: Prentis continued journal alone after Hunter's death in December 1788; in early spring of 1793, he increased publication frequency from weekly to twice-weekly.

References: LCCN No. 84-024506; Brigham II: 1134-1135.

Variant 03: The Virginia Gazette, and Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: By April 2, 1793 to before September 6, 1793 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: William Prentis

IVP Associates: William Prentis (340)

Notes: At some time between issues of September 27, 1792, and April 2, 1793, Prentis increased publication frequency from weekly to twice-weekly, most likely in early spring 1793.

References: LCCN No. 84-024506; Brigham II: 1134-1135.

Variant 04: Virginia Gazette & Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: By September 6, 1793 to before May 13, 1796 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: William Prentis

IVP Associates: William Prentis (340)

Notes: Simple title alteration of sometime between 1793 issues of April 2nd and September 6th, with initial article removed and an ampersand replacing word "and."

References: LCCN No. 84-024506; Brigham II: 1134-1135.

Variant 04: Virginia Gazette & Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: By May 13, 1796 to September 30, 1796 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Prentis & Murray

IVP Associates: William Prentis (340), William Yates Murray (310)

Notes: Sometime between the 1796 issues of February 26th and May 13th, Prentis added his former apprentice Murray as a partner and editor of paper; Murray died October 1, 1796, bringing relationship to an end.

References: LCCN No. 84-024506; Brigham II: 1134-1135.

Variant 04: Virginia Gazette & Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: October 4, 1796 to March 28, 1797 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: William Prentis

IVP Associates: William Prentis (340)

Notes: Murray died October 1, 1796, bringing relationship with Prentis to an end; he continued the Intelligencer alone until the spring of 1799.

References: LCCN No. 84-024506; Brigham II: 1134-1135.

Variant 05: Virginia Gazette and Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: March 31, 1797 to before June 18, 1799 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: William Prentis

IVP Associates: William Prentis (340)

Notes: Simple title change with issue of March 31, 1797; word "and" replaces former ampersand.

References: LCCN No. 84-024506; Brigham II: 1134-1135.

Variant 06: Virginia Gazette and Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: by June 18, 1799 to before June 17, 1800 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Prentis & Pleasants

IVP Associates: William Prentis (340), Tarleton Woodson Pleasants (333)

Notes: Sometime between the 1799 issues of May 7th and June 18th, Prentis added Pleasants as editorial partner; their relationship ended sometime between the 1800 issues of April 1st and June 17th.

References: LCCN No. 84-024506; Brigham II: 1134-1135.

Variant 07: The Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: By June 17, 1800 to before January 21, 1803 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: William Prentis

IVP Associates: William Prentis (340), John Dickson (134), Edward Pescud (324)

Notes: Sometime between 1800 issues of April 1st and June 17th, Prentis ended partnership with Pleasants and shortened title of his journal; period of first evidence of Dickson & Pescud, his successors, working in *Intelligencer* office.

References: LCCN No. 85-025963; Brigham II: 1131-1132.

Variant 08: Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: By January 21, 1803 to January 3, 1804 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: William Prentis

IVP Associates: William Prentis (340), John Dickson (134), Edward Pescud (324)

Notes: Sometime between issues of November 19, 1802, and January 21, 1803, Prentis removed initial article "The" from title.

References: LCCN No. 85-025963; Brigham II: 1131-1132.

Variant 09: Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: January 6, 1804 October 15, 1805 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Dickson & Pescud

IVP Associates: John Dickson (134), Edward Pescud (324)

Notes: Following issue of January 3, 1804, Prentis retired from participation in the *Intelligencer*, though he retained a financial interest in the paper for some time; he was succeeded by his two most senior journeymen.

References: LCCN No. 85-025963; Brigham II: 1131-1132.

Variant 10: Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: October 18, 1805 to June 3, 1808 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: John Dickson

IVP Associates: John Dickson (134)

Notes: Following issue of October 15, 1805, Pescud withdrew from arrangement with Dickson to buy competing *Petersburg Republican*; Dickson continued alone until his July 1814 death.

References: LCCN No. 85-025963; Brigham II: 1131-1132.

Variant 11: Petersburg Virginia Intelligencer

Publication Data: June 7, 1808 to before January 8, 1810 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: John Dickson

IVP Associates: John Dickson (134)

Notes: With issue of June 7, 1808, Dickson added title ornament "Virginia" between elements of the masthead title.

References: LCCN No. 85-025963; Brigham II: 1131-1132.

Variant 12: Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: By January 8, 1810 to July 8, 1814 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: John Dickson

IVP Associates: John Dickson (134)

Notes: Sometime between issues of December 23, 1808 and January 8, 1810, Dickson removed title ornament "Virginia" from masthead, so reverting title to former one; Dickson died on July 11, 1814, leaving operation of *Intelligencer* to his estate.

References: LCCN No. 85-025963; Brigham II: 1131-1132.

Variant 13: Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: July 12, 1814 to July 22, 1814 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Estate of John Dickson

IVP Associates: John Dickson (134)

Notes: Dickson died on July 11, 1814, leaving operation of *Intelligencer* to his estate; with issue of July 29, 1814, ownership of the paper passed to Whitworth & Yancey; Dickson's press was sold at public auction on August 26, 1814.

References: LCCN No. 85-025963; Brigham II: 1131-1132.

Variant 14: Petersburg Intelligencer

Publication Data: July 29, 1814 to about December 1817 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Whitworth & Yancey

IVP Associates: Thomas Whitworth (443), Francis G. Yancey (463)

Notes: With issue of July 29, 1814, *Intelligencer* ownership passed to Whitworth & Yancey from Dickson's estate; his press was sold at public auction on August 26, 1814, and apparently acquired by Yancey, previously Dickson's shop foreman.

References: LCCN No. 85-025963; Brigham II: 1131-1132.

Variant 15: The Intelligencer, & Petersburg Commercial Advertiser

Publication Data: About December 1817 to before October 20, 1819 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Whitworth & Yancey

IVP Associates: Thomas Whitworth (443), Francis G. Yancey (463)

Notes: *Intelligencer* adopted longest-lived title form in about December 1817, though the lack of

surviving issues from 1815 to 1819 makes assigning specific date impossible; Whitworth & Yancey partnership dissolved sometime between 1819 issues of August 6th and October 20th, suggesting their arrangement was a five-year one dating to the auction of Dickson's press office on August 26, 1814.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Brigham II: 1131-1132.

Variant 16: The Intelligencer, & Petersburg Commercial Advertiser

Publication Data: By October 20, 1819 to June 3, 1828 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Francis G. Yancey

IVP Associates: Francis G. Yancey (463)

Notes: Yancey's partnership with Whitworth ended in early fall 1819; thereafter, he conducted paper either alone or in short-term partnerships with merchants and lawyers; partnered with William Rose in mid-1821, and with Stith E. Burton from August 1824 to mid-1827; his successor, Thomas L. Wilson, joined *Intelligencer* office in 1825 as editor.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Brigham II: 1131-1132; Cappon 1075.

Variant 17: The Intelligencer, & Petersburg Commercial Advertiser

Publication Data: June 6, 1828 to October 7, 1829 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Richard Field & Thomas L. Wilson

IVP Associates:

Notes: With issue of June 6, 1828, Yancey sold *Intelligencer* to friend & associate Field and editor Wilson, in order to start a literary weekly, *The Times*, with Henry Whyte; Field died in May 1829, and Yancey bought his share from the estate in October that year.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 18: The Intelligencer, & Petersburg Commercial Advertiser

Publication Data: October 9, 1829 to before August 25, 1833 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Francis G. Yancey & Thomas L. Wilson

IVP Associates: Francis G. Yancey (463)

Notes: Richard Field died in May 1829; Yancey bought his interest in the *Intelligencer* from Field's estate in October that year; with issue of October 9, 1829; Yancey folded his new weekly, *The Times*, into the *Intelligencer* as a weekly edition, though Wilson conducted both on a daily basis. Yancey died on July 7, 1833, leading to sale of his share in the concern.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 19: The Intelligencer, & Petersburg Commercial Advertiser

Publication Data: By August 25, 1833 to before May 1835 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Robert Birchett Jr. & Thomas L. Wilson

IVP Associates:

Notes: Yancey died on July 7, 1833, leading to sale of his share in the concern; a notice published in *Richmond Enquirer* reports that Birchett, a Petersburg attorney, had acquired Yancey's interest by August 25, 1833, creating firm of Birchett & Wilson.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 20: The Intelligencer, & Petersburg Commercial Advertiser

Publication Data: By May 1835 to before July 22, 1837 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Robert Birchett, Jr.

IVP Associates:

Notes: In early 1835, Wilson sold his interest in the *Intelligencer* to his partner Birchett in order to buy the *Lynchburg Democrat*; he assumed control of that paper on May 4, 1835.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 21: The Intelligencer, & Petersburg Commercial Advertiser

Publication Data: Before July 22, 1837 to January 30, 1838 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: Edward Vernon Sparhawk

IVP Associates:

Notes: In April 1837, Birchett offered the *Intelligencer* for sale; he sold the paper to Sparhawk in mid-July, as reported by the *National Intelligencer* on July 22nd; Sparhawk died suddenly and unexpectedly on January 6, 1838, while reporting on the Virginia General Assembly in Richmond; his death led to a quick sale of the *Intelligencer* by his estate & creditors.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 22: The Intelligencer, & Petersburg Commercial Advertiser

Publication Data: February 2, 1838 to January 1840 2/week (Tues, Fri)

Proprietors: John W. Syme

IVP Associates:

Notes: Syme acquired the *Intelligencer* from estate of E. V. Sparhawk effective February 1, 1838; first number under his imprimatur was issued the next day; Syme retained ownership of the paper until the end of March 1857.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 23: The Intelligencer, and Tri-Weekly Commercial Advertiser

Publication Data: January 1840 to December 31, 1849 3/week

Proprietors: John W. Syme

IVP Associates:

Notes: Sometime in January 1840, Syme increased frequency of *Intelligencer* from twice-weekly to thrice-weekly; pace was continued until paper became a daily in January 1850.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 24: Daily Intelligencer

Publication Data: January 1, 1850 to April 15, 1857 Daily (ex. Sun)

Proprietors: John W. Syme

IVP Associates:

Notes: With the issue of January 1, 1850, Syme increased frequency of *Intelligencer* from thrice-weekly to daily; in December 1856, Syme bought the *Raleigh [NC] Register*, and so offered the *Intelligencer* for sale; that sale was not concluded until April 1857.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 25: Daily Intelligencer

Publication Data: April 16, 1857 to December 30, 1858 Daily (ex. Sun)

Proprietors: James McDonald & Frederick W. Page

IVP Associates:

Notes: With issue of April 16, 1857, the firm of McDonald & Page acquired the *Intelligencer* from Syme; the partners sold the paper in December 1858 so that McDonald could buy into the *Richmond Whig*.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 26: Daily Intelligencer

Publication Data: January 1, 1859 to June 9, 1860 Daily (ex. Sun)

Proprietors: Albion K. Moore

IVP Associates:

Notes: Effective January 1, 1859, the *Intelligencer* passed to Albion K. Moore, formerly editor of the *Savannah Republican* and Bristol [VA] *Virginia & Tennessee News*; Moore defaulted on notes issued to buy paper, forcing an auction sale of *Intelligencer* on June 9, 1860, when it was reacquired by Frederick W. Page, one of Moore's creditors.

References: LCCN No. 84-024505; Cappon 1075.

Variant 27: [Petersburg Intelligencer]

Publication Data: June 11, 1860 to February 9, 1861 Daily (ex. Sun)

Proprietors: Frederick W. Page & Robert Bolling

IVP Associates:

Notes: No copies known extant; record here drawn from newspaper accounts; title suggested.

Page reacquired *Intelligencer* in an auction sale on Saturday June 9, 1860, after Moore had defaulted on notes he issued to Page to buy the paper in January 1859; after that auction, Moore refused to surrender the subscription list and office's tools, issuing instead another newspaper, the *Petersburg Daily Times*, on following Monday, using the *Intelligencer* list; Page obtained a court order for that list and warned *Intelligencer's* patrons against paying Moore for any debts now owned by him. Page was able to resume publication on July 1st, with Bolling as his partner and paper's editor, so *Intelligencer* was, in actuality, suspended from June 11th, the date most sources report as change in title of the paper by Moore.

References: Not recorded in published sources.

Variant 28: [Petersburg Intelligencer]

Publication Data: February 11, 1861 to sometime in 1861 Daily (ex. Sun)

Proprietors: Richard Cabell Shell

IVP Associates:

Notes: No copies known extant; record here drawn from newspaper accounts; title suggested.

In early December 1860, Page advertised in the *Richmond Whig* for a partner to assist him in the *Intelligencer*, indicating Bolling's retirement from partnership; Page instead sold the daily to Shell, a young Dinwiddie County lawyer, effective Monday February 11, 1861; as Shell enlisted in the Virginia Militia in May of that year, after the secession ordinance, it is likely that the *Intelligencer* finally ceased publication at about that time.

References: Not recorded in published sources.
