

Lineage No.: **WILLIAMSBURG 03**

Group Title: **Virginia Gazette III**

Variant 01: The Virginia Gazette

Publication Data: February 3, 1775 to about April 12, 1779 Weekly

Proprietors: Alexander Purdie & Co.

IVP Associates: Alexander Purdie (345), John Clarkson (093), Augustine Davis (119)

Notes: Third newspaper published in Virginia; publication began after the dissolution of an eight-year-long partnership between Purdie and John Dixon at end of 1774; Purdie's new paper replaced the *Virginia Gazette* of William & Clementina Rind as colony's journal-of-record in June 1775 when Purdie was elected public printer; Purdie and his *Gazette* continued in those functions under the newly-independent state government in May 1776. Publication suspended in January & February 1778 for want of paper. Purdie remained journal's sole proprietor until his death in April 1779, which came sometime between April 12th, when his will was drafted, and April 16th, when *Gazette* of Dixon & Nicolson printed an undated death notice. His *Gazette* was continued by his two journeyman-nephews, John Clarkson and Augustine Davis, as firm of Clarkson & Davis.

References: LCCN No. 84-024742; Brigham II: 1158.

Variant 02: The Virginia Gazette

Publication Data: By April 16, 1779 to about December 9, 1780 Weekly

Proprietors: Clarkson & Davis

IVP Associates: John Clarkson (093), Augustine Davis (119)

Notes: Alexander Purdie's death was reported in *Virginia Gazette* of Dixon & Nicolson on April 16, 1779, making that date the earliest known for transition to the firm of Clarkson & Davis. Earliest surviving number of this title with a Clarkson & Davis imprimatur is that issued on May 15, 1779; that issue is no. 214, while latest known Purdie-issued number for October 30, 1778, is no. 187; thus there clearly was not a suspension in publication of this *Gazette* resulting from Purdie's death, though day of issue shifted from Friday to Saturday during that interval. Clarkson & Davis continued publication until late 1780, eight months after the state government was removed to Richmond; the last known number is that for December 9, 1780, and is likely the last published issue.

References: LCCN No. 84-024742; Brigham II: 1158.
