

001 ADAMS, -----

Publisher

Staunton

Partner of printer & publisher John Wise (455) in Staunton's *Virginia Gazette* in late 1796.

The brevity of the Wise & Adams partnership – less than six months – suggests that Adams was editor and/or financier of Wise's paper once Staunton merchant Robert Douthat (147) withdrew from the venture earlier that year. His absence from other Staunton imprints makes further identification difficult, especially given the common nature of his surname. It is possible that he was the William Adams (an Irishman from Belfast), a visitor who attended meetings of Staunton's Masonic Lodge in early 1797, where Wise and Douthat were leading presences; if so, then he was also likely a transient figure in the town.

No Personal Data discovered.

Sources: Imprints; Brigham; Brown, *Freemasonry in Staunton*.