

MATHEWS, GEORGE, governor of Georgia in 1787 and 1794-95, was born in Augusta county, Va., 1739. His father, John Mathews, was a native of Ireland. George won distinction in the incursions made against the Indians of the north-west territory. In 1775 he became a colonel and fought under Washington at Brandywine and Germantown. He was under Gen. Greene as colonel at the close of the war. He located in Oglethorpe county in 1785, and was elected in 1786, in one year's residence, governor of the state and representative in congress. He was re-elected governor in 1794-95, and during the last term was called on to sign the celebrated "Yazoo act." He did so, and his political death followed. In 1811 President Madison appointed him commissioner of the United States to negotiate for the annexation of Florida, but the president disavowed the treaty. While on his way to Washington for the avowed purpose of chastising the president, whose action he deemed a reflection on his integrity, Mr. Mathews was taken sick, and died at Augusta Aug. 30, 1812.