

constitution in 1777. He was elected by the council of safety president and commander-in-chief of the colony—practically governor—in March, 1777, but was defeated for governor at the regular election in May of that year. Personal difficulties growing out of political rivalries led to a duel between Gov. Gwinnett and Gen. Lachlan McIntosh on May 15, 1777. Both were wounded, McIntosh dangerously and Gwinnett fatally, and he died in his forty-fifth year, and in his greatest usefulness, a victim to the laws of false honor and of mortified pride. He left a widow and several young children, none of whom long survived him, and none of his direct descendants ever blessed the land of his adoption.

TREUTLEN, JOHN ADAM, was governor of Georgia (1777), and one of the foremost revolutionists. He was a member from the parish of St. Andrew of the first provincial congress of Georgia, which met in Savannah July 4, 1775. He was elected governor May 8, 1777, over Button Gwinnett, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, by a large majority. He was described as a "rebel governor" by act of the royal government of Georgia in 1780. It is claimed his death was caused by tories in 1780, and that he was murdered at Orangeburgh, S. C.

HOUSTON, JOHN, governor of Georgia (1778 and 1784), was born at Waynesboro, Ga., Aug. 31, 1744. In 1774 he called the first meeting of the "Sons of Liberty" and acted as its chairman. He soon became a popular leader. He was a member of the continental congress of 1775 and 1776. He was appointed a member of the executive council May 8, 1777, and elected governor Jan. 8, 1778. As governor he invaded east Florida with Maj.-Gen. Robert Howe, but the movement failed. During his administration the British captured Savannah, and he was invested by council with almost dictatorial power, the exigencies of the occasion requiring it. He was again elected governor in 1784. He was one of the first lawyers of his time and was a remarkable figure in Georgia history of his period. He died at White Bluff July 20, 1796.

WEREAT, JOHN, governor of Georgia (1779), was born about 1730, and was an early and ardent champion of liberty. He was a member of the first provincial congress of Georgia and speaker of the congress of 1776. After Savannah fell into the hands of the enemy the legislature dispersed without appointing a governor for the succeeding year. Mr. Wereat, as president of the executive council, continued the operation of the functions of the government. In 1782 the people west of Augusta suffered from famine and Mr. Wereat found relief for them. He was remarkable for his financial talents, which he exerted with much usefulness to his country. He died in Bryan county in 1798.

HALL, LYMAN, governor of Georgia (1783), and signer of the Declaration of Independence, was born in Connecticut in April, 1724, graduated from Yale in 1747 and located in Sunbury, Ga., in 1758. He achieved great distinction in the practice of his profession, and being active in promoting the revolution, was elected to the provincial congresses of 1774-75 in Savannah, Ga. He was sent as a delegate to the continental congress by St. John's parish, and being the only representative from Georgia, he was admitted to this body as the representative of his parish and not his colony. He declined to vote, but took part in the debates, and had a potent influence in carrying his province into the revolution. He served in the continental congress from 1776 to 1780 and was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was elected governor in 1782, and after serving one year retired to private life. He died in Burke county, Ga., Oct. 19, 1790. Gov.