

HANDLEY, GEORGE, governor of Georgia at the early age of thirty-six, was born near Sheffield, England, in 1752. He came to the colonies in 1775, and at once joined the continental army, becoming captain and soon rising to lieutenant-colonel. He was captured at Augusta and sent to Charleston, S. C., as a prisoner. After the war he became sheriff of Richmond county, state representative, inspector-general and then governor of the state in 1788. He was one of the commissioners to the state of Franklin in 1786. He died at Roe's Hall, Ga., Sept. 17, 1793.

WALTON, GEORGE, governor of Georgia (1789-1790), and signer of the Declaration of Independence, was born in Prince Edward county, Va., in 1749. He was left an orphan at an early age and served an apprenticeship at carpentering. He made rapid advancement in knowledge, by the judicious use of his evening hours, eagerly perusing all books he could borrow from friends or neighbors. When about twenty years of age he migrated to Savannah, when he began the study of law. He was soon admitted to practice, and his success was immediate. In 1777 he married Dorothy Camber. He was one of the leaders in the patriotic party in Georgia and was the secretary of the first provincial congress of Georgia, which convened July 4, 1775. He was president of the Council of Safety in 1775, and with Archibald Bulloch, Lyman Hall and Button Gwinnett was elected a delegate to the continental congress from Georgia by the provincial congress Jan. 20, 1776. With the exception of an interval in 1779, when he was governor, he was continued as a member of congress until October, 1781. In association with Gwinnett and Hall he signed the Declaration of Independence. As a member of the treasury board of the committee on naval affairs and of other committees he rendered intelligent service. He was a colonel of the militia formed for the defense of Georgia and in the battle at Savannah was wounded and then captured. He was appointed chief justice of the state in 1783 and elected delegate to make a constitution for the United States. In 1795-6 he represented Georgia as senator in the congress of the United States. He was a member of the Union society of Savannah, and a trustee of the Richmond academy. He was twice elected to the Georgia assembly and was a United States commissioner to make a treaty with the Cherokee Indians in Tennessee. Without adjunct of education or fortune, George Walton won and maintained his right to preferment by conscientious endeavor, consecutive study and unquestioned ability. His life and success well illustrate what in this country can be achieved by honesty of purpose, natural talent and earnest effort.