

## John Glen.

**J**OHN GLEN, the first Chief Justice of Georgia, was the son of James Glen, one of the royal governors of South Carolina. His standing as a lawyer and as a patriot is clearly indicated by the positions which he held. The *Georgia Gazette* of July 20, 1774, published a call signed by Noble W. Jones, Archibald Bulloch, John Houstoun, and George Walton requesting "that all persons within the limits of this province do attend at the Liberty Pole at Tondee's Tavern in Savannah, on Wednesday, the 27th instant, in order that the said matter [Boston Port Bill] may be taken under consideration, and such other constitutional measures pursued as may then appear most eligible."

John Glen was chosen chairman of the Savannah committee and as such sent notices to the different parishes, requesting that they would send to the meeting of August 10th, which was an adjourned meeting of the one called in July, delegates "to join the committee agreeable to the number of representatives each parish sends to the General Assembly."

On the 18th of January, 1775, a Provincial Congress met in Savannah upon invitation of a committee of the citizens of Christ Church parish and elected John Glen chairman.

On June 22, 1775, he was made a member of the first Council of Safety, along with a number of other leading patriots of his day. He was also a member of the Provincial Congress which met July 4, 1775. In fact there was scarcely a patriotic movement during those stirring times which marked the beginning of the Revolution with which he was not in some way connected.

The Council of Safety, as originally created, had almost arbitrary powers. The Provincial Congress, feeling the need of a broader basis of action, on April 15, 1776, adopted a set of resolutions amounting to a constitution. Among other things this constitution provided for a Chief-Justice and two assistant judges, etc. They were to be "appointed by ballot and to serve during the pleasure of the Congress." Mr. Glen was chosen as the first Chief-Justice of Georgia, and his salary fixed by the statute at one hundred pounds per annum. Judge Glen was mayor of Savannah in 1797, and on January 26th of the following year was appointed judge of the Superior Court.

He married Sarah Jones, a daughter of Noble W. Jones, about 1755. He died May 13, 1799.

A. B. CALDWELL.