

7. From the Colony of Pennsylvania:



Benjamin Rush. Doctor BENJAMIN RUSH was born in Berberry, about twelve miles northeast of Philadelphia, on the twenty-fourth day of December 1745. He was descended from an officer of that name in Oliver Cromwell’s army, who, after the death of the Protector,³ emigrated to America, and settled in Pennsylvania. Benjamin was his grandson.

The father of Benjamin Rush died when he was only six years old, and he and a brother were left entirely to the care of his mother. She was anxious to give Benjamin a classical education, but the earnings from her small farm did not supply her with adequate means. Intent upon her purpose, she sold her land and moved into Philadelphia, where she commenced some commercial pursuit. She was successful; and her wish to give her eldest son a liberal education, was gratified. At the age of nine years he was placed under the care of the Rev. Dr. Findlay, principal of an academy at Nottingham, in Maryland. After completing his preparatory studies, young Rush entered Princeton College in 1759 where he took his degree in 1760.

³ “English soldier and statesman who led parliamentary forces in the English Civil Wars; he was lord protector of England, Scotland, and Ireland from 1653 to 1658 during the republican Commonwealth. As one of the generals on the parliamentary side in the English Civil War against King Charles I, Cromwell helped to bring about the overthrow of the Stuart monarchy” (*The New Encyclopaedia Britannica: Micropaedia*, 3:747).

The study of law was the voluntary choice of young Rush, by the advice of Dr. Findlay, he selected the practice of medicine as a profession, and placed himself under the direction of the celebrated Doctor Redman of Philadelphia. In 1766 he went to England with the view of professional improvement, where he remained two years, attending the lectures at the best hospitals and medical schools in London. In 1768, he returned to America, bearing the title of “Doctor of Medicine,” for which a diploma was conferred at Edinburgh.

Dr. Rush commenced practice in Philadelphia, and before the first year of his professional career was completed, he was called in consultation with some of the most eminent practitioners of that city. His polished manners, superior intellect, kind deportment in the sick room, and unwearied attention to the calls of the poor, made him very popular, and soon had an extensive and lucrative practice.

Dr. Rush espoused the patriot cause immediately after his return to America, in 1768, and his pen proved a powerful instrument, in connection with his personal exertions, in arousing the people to action. He was solicited to take a seat in the General Congress of 1775, but declined; but when, in 1776, some of the Pennsylvania delegates in Congress refused to vote for Independence and withdrew from their seats, he was elected to fill one of them. He was not a member when the Declaration was adopted, but was present and signed it on the second of August following.

With the exception of being a member of the Convention of Pennsylvania, which adopted the Federal Constitution, he did not actively participate in any public duties.

Doctor Rush’s eminent qualities as a medical practitioner, a philanthropist, and a Christian, were fully developed when the yellow fever rapidly depopulated Philadelphia in 1793. It was so malignant, that all the usual remedies failed, and the best medical skill was completely foiled.

Many physicians became alarmed for their own safety and fled from the city; but Doctor Rush, and a few of his attached pupils and friends, remained to aid the sick and dying, and, if possible, check the march of the destroyer. He at length had a severe attack of the fever, and some of his pupils fell victims; but so long as he was able to get from his bed, he did not remit his labors.

When alarm seized upon many of the resident physicians, and they fled from the danger, Doctor Rush called together some of his pupils and professional friends and laid before them their professional responsibilities to their profession and to the public. He concluded his earnest appeal by saying: “As for myself, I am determined to remain. I may fall a victim to the epidemic, and so may you, gentlemen. But I prefer, since I am placed here by Divine Providence, to fall in performing my duty, if such must be the consequence of staying upon the ground, than to secure my life by fleeing from the post of duty allotted in the Providence of God. I will remain, if I remain alone.” He and a few of his noble-hearted pupils remained and performed their duty faithfully.

Through life the Bible was a “lamp to his feet”— his guide in all things appertaining to his duty toward God and man. Amid all his close and arduous pursuit of human knowledge, he never neglected to “search the Scriptures” for the knowledge which points the soul aright in its journey to the Spirit Land. His belief in revealed religion, and in the Divine inspiration of the Sacred Writers, is manifested in many of his scientific productions; and during that period when the sentiments of infidel France were infused into the minds of men in high places here, Doctor Rush’s principles stood firm, and his opinions never wavered.

The life of this truly great man terminated on the nineteenth day of April 1813 when he was in the sixty-eighth year of his age.

8. From the Colony of Delaware:



George Read. GEORGE READ was born in Cecil county, in the Province of Maryland, in the year 1734, and was the eldest of six brothers. He was of Irish descent. His grandfather was a wealthy resident of Dublin, his native city, and his father emigrated to America from Ireland about 1726. George was placed in a school of considerable repute at Chester, in Pennsylvania, where he made much progress in Latin and Greek, his father having previously instructed in all the common branches of good English education. He was afterward placed under the care of the Reverend Doctor Allison, who at various times had charge of several pupils, who were afterward members of the Continental Congress, or held other high official stations.

At the age of seventeen years young Read commenced the study of the law in the office of John Moreland, a distinguished barrister of Philadelphia. He was admitted to the bar in 1753 at an early age of nineteen years, and then commenced a career of honor and usefulness to himself and others.

We cannot pass unnoticed an act of noble generosity which marked his initial step in his profession. As soon as he was admitted to the bar a practicing attorney, he voluntarily released all the legal right which he had in the estate of his father, in behalf of the rest of the children; alleging that he had received his share in full in the expenses of his education, and that he conscientiously believed that it would be a fraud upon the others, if he should claim an equal share with them in the final division.

In 1754, he settled in the county of New Castle, Delaware, and commenced the practice of his profession. Although competitors of eminence were all around him, Mr. Read soon rose to their level, and at the age of twenty-nine, he succeeded John Ross as Attorney General for the “lower counties on the Delaware” of Kent, Sussex, and New Castle. This office he held until elected a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1774.

He was married in 1763 to the accomplished and pious daughter of the Reverend George Ross, the pastor of a Church in New Castle, and a relative of the Attorney General.

In 1765 Mr. Read was elected a member of the General Assembly of Delaware, and was re-elected to the office eleven consecutive years. He was one of a committee of that body, who, in view of the odious features of the Stamp Act, proposed an address to the King in behalf of the people of the Province. Mr. Read clearly perceived however, that remonstrances from isolated Colonies would have but little effect, and he was one of those patriots of prudence and sound judgment, who looked to a general Convention of representatives of the several Colonies, as the surest means through which the sense of justice in the home government could be reached.

When the sufferings of the people of Boston, from the effects of the Act of Parliament known as the “Boston Port Bill,” excited the warmest sympathy throughout the colonies, and subscriptions for their relief were everywhere made.

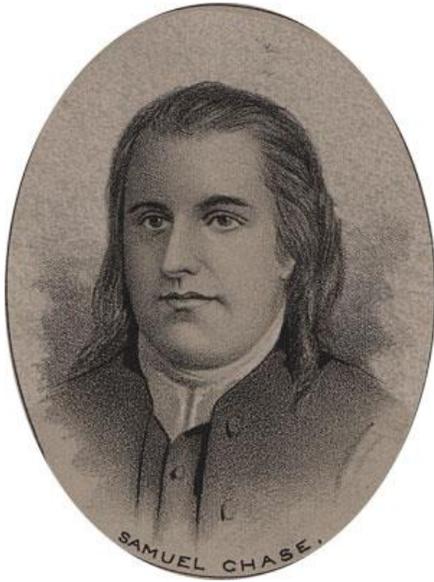
In 1774, Mr. Read, with Caesar Rodney and Thomas M’Kean for colleagues, was appointed by the Assembly of Delaware, a delegate to the General Congress that met in September of that year at Philadelphia. He was a delegate also in 1775 and 1776, and during the early part of the latter year, his labors were divided between his duties in Congress, and the affairs of his own State.

When, in 1777, soon after the battle of Brandywine, Governor M’Kinley, the President of the State, was taken prisoner by the British, Mr. Read, who was Vice President, was obliged to perform his duties. He discharged them with fidelity, and at the same time he was active in the Committee of Safety. On one or two occasions he marched with the militia, musket in hand, to repel invasion.

He was an earnest advocate for the Declaration of Independence, and considered it a high privilege when he placed his name upon the parchment. After the Declaration, the people of Delaware formed a State Constitution, and Mr. Read was President of the Convention that framed the instrument.

In 1788, he was elected a member of the Senate of Delaware, under the new Constitution, and he occupied a seat there until 1793, when he was elevated to the bench as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of his State. He occupied that station until the autumn of 1798, when death, by sudden illness, closed his useful life, in the sixty-fourth year of his age.

9. From the Colony of Maryland:



Samuel Chase. SAMUEL CHASE was born on the seventeenth day of April 1741, in Somerset county, Maryland. His father was a clergyman of the protestant episcopal church, and possessing an excellent education himself, he imparted such instruction to his son in the study of the classics, and in the common branches of an English education, as well fitted him for entering upon professional life. He commenced the study of law at the age of eighteen years, under Messers. Hammond and Hall of Annapolis, who stood at the head of their profession in that section of the province. At the age of twenty he was admitted to practice before the mayor's court; and at twenty-two he became a member of the bar, and was allowed to practice in the chancery and other colonial courts.

Mr. Chase was chosen a member of the Provincial Assembly, and there his independence of feeling and action in matters of principle greatly offended those time-serving legislators who fawned at the feet of the royal governor. There he first gave evidence of that stamina of character which he afterward so strongly manifested when called upon to act amid the momentous scenes of the Revolution.

The Stamp Act aroused the energies of his soul to do battle for his country's right, and he was among the first in Maryland who lifted up voice and hand against the oppressor. He became obnoxious to the authorities of Annapolis, and they attempted, by degrading epithets, to crush his eagle spirit while yet a fledgling. But their persecution extended his notoriety, and he soon became popular with the great mass of the people.

Mr. Chase was one of the five delegates to the first Continental Congress in 1774, appointed by a convention of the people of Maryland. He was also appointed by the same meeting, one of the "Committee of Correspondence" for that colony.

These committees of correspondence constituted a powerful agent in the great work of the Revolution. At first these committees were confined to the larger cities, but very speedily every village and hamlet had its auxiliary committees, and the high moral tone evinced by the Chiefs, ran through all the gradations, from the polished committees appointed by Colonial Assemblies, to the rustic interior towns. Thus the patriot heart of America, at this crisis (1773), beat as with one pulsation, and the public mind was fully prepared to act with promptness and decision when circumstances should call for action.

These appointments made Read obnoxious to the adherents to royalty, yet their good opinion was the least thing he coveted. In the General Congress he was bold and energetic, and even at that early day, he expressed his sentiments freely in favor of absolute independence. This feeling, however, was not general in the colonies, and the people were desirous of reconciliation by righteous means, rather than independence.

Mr. Chase was again elected to Congress in 1775 and with his usual zeal, he was active in promoting every measure for strengthening the military force of the country, then concentrated in the vicinity of Boston. He was also a delegate in 1776, and in the meanwhile he had used his growing influence and popularity to the uttermost in endeavoring to have the Maryland convention remove its restrictive instructions by which its delegates were prohibited from voting in favor of independence.

His private affairs demanding his attention, Mr. Chase withdrew from Congress toward the close of 1778 and he resumed the practice of his profession in Annapolis. He was engaged but little in public affairs for several years, and it was not until 1788 that he again appeared in the arena of the political world. He was that year chosen a member of the state convention of Maryland, called to consider the ratification of the Federal Constitution, and about the same time he received and accepted the appointment of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the state.

In 1796, President Washington nominated him a judge of the Supreme Court of the United States, which nomination was confirmed by the Senate. He held office about fifteen years, and no man ever stood higher for honesty of purpose and integrity of motives than Judge Chase.

His life was terminated on the nineteenth day of June 1811, when he was in the seventieth year of his age. Judge Chase was a man of great benevolence of feeling and in all his walks, he exemplified the beauties of Christianity, of which he was a sincere professor.

10. From the Colony of Virginia:



George Wythe. GEORGE WYTHER was one of Virginia's most distinguished sons. He was born in the year 1726 in Elizabeth county, and being the child of wealthy parents, he had every opportunity given him which the colony afforded for acquiring a good education. His father died when he was quite young, and his education and moral training devolved upon his mother, a woman of superior abilities. She was very proficient in the Latin language, and she aided him much in the study of the classics. But before he was twenty-one years of age, death deprived him of her guidance and instruction; and he was left at that early period of life with a large fortune and the entire control of his own actions. His character not having become fixed, he launched out upon the dangerous sea of pleasure and dissipation, and for ten years of the morning of his life he laid aside study and sought only personal gratification.

When about thirty years of age, a sudden change was wrought in him, and he forsook the places of revelry and the companionship of the thoughtless, and resumed the studies of his youth with all the ardor of one anxious to make up lost time. He mourned over his misspent days, even in his old age which was clustered round with honors, and he felt intensely the truth of the assertion that "time once lost, is lost forever." He at once commenced a course of study, preparatory to entering upon the profession of the law, and he became a student in the office of Mr. Jones, then one of the most distinguished lawyers in the colony.

He was admitted to the bar in 1757, and rose rapidly to eminence, not only as an able advocate, but as a strictly conscientious one, for he would never knowingly engage in an unjust cause. Strict in all his business relations, and honorable to the last degree, he was honored with the full confidence of the people of Virginia, and when that state organized an independent government pursuant to the recommendations of Congress, Mr. Wythe was appointed Chancellor of the State, then the highest judicial office in the gift of the people. That office he held during his life.

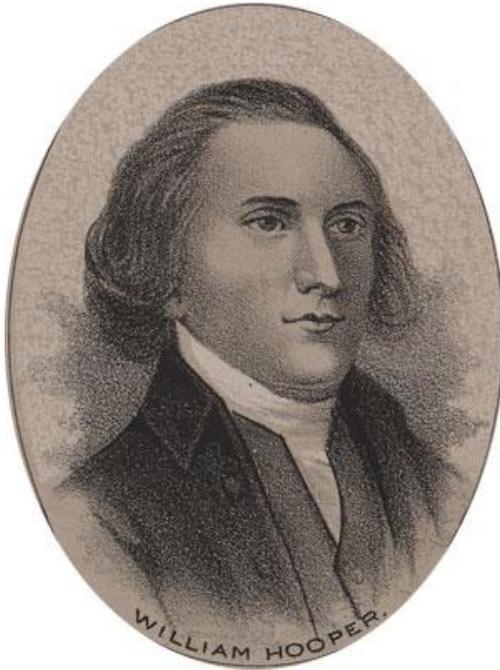
For several years prior to the Revolution, Mr. Wythe was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, and when the Stamp Act aroused the patriotic resistance of the people, he stood shoulder to shoulder in that Assembly with Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Peyton Randolph and others, who were distinguished as leaders in legislation when the storm of the War for Independence burst upon the land.

In 1775 Mr. Wythe was elected a delegate to the General Congress and was there in 1776, when his colleague, Mr. Lee submitted his bold resolution for Independence. He steadfastly promoted every measure tending toward such a result, and he voted for and signed the Declaration of Independence.

In 1777, he was chosen Speaker of the House of Burgesses of Virginia. In 1786, Mr. Wythe was chosen a delegate to the National Convention that framed the Federal Constitution. He was also a member of the Virginia convention called to consider its adoption, and was twice chosen a United States Senator under it.

Mr. Wythe was a man of great perseverance and industry, kind and benevolent to the utmost; was strict in his integrity, sincere in every word, faithful in every trust; and his life presents a striking example of the force of good resolution triumphing over the seductions of pleasure and vice, and the attainments which persevering and virtuous toil will bring to the practitioner of these necessary ingredients for the establishment of an honorable reputation, and in the labors of a useful life.

11. From the Colony of North Carolina:



William Hooper. WILLIAM HOOPER was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on the seventeenth day of June 1742. His father was a Scotchman and a graduate of the University of Edinburgh. Soon after leaving that institution, he emigrated to America, and fixed his residence at Boston, where he was married. William was his first born, and he paid particular attention to his preparation for a collegiate course. He was placed under the charge of Mr. Lovell, then one of the most eminent instructors in the colony of Massachusetts Bay. Having completed his preparatory studies, William was entered a pupil at Harvard University, where he remained a close and industrious student for three years, and in 1760 he graduated with distinguished honors.

His father designed him for the clerical profession, but as he evinced a decided preference for the bar, he was placed as a student in the office of the celebrated James Otis. On the completion of his studies, perceiving that the profession was quite full of practicians in Massachusetts, he went to North Carolina, where many of his Scotch relations resided, and began business in that province in 1767.

Mr. Hooper formed a circle of very polished acquaintances there, and he soon became highly esteemed among the literary men of the province.

Those who knew him best, knew well how strongly and purely burned that flame of patriotism which his zealous instructor, Mr. Otis, had lighted in his bosom; and his consistent course in public life, attested his sincerity.

Mr. Hooper began his legislative labors in 1773, when he was elected a member of the Provincial Assembly of North Carolina, for the town of Wilmington. The proposition of Massachusetts for a General Congress was hailed with joy in North Carolina, and a convention of the people was called in the summer of 1774, to take the matter into consideration. The convention met in Newbern, and after passing resolutions approving the call, they approved William Hooper their first delegate to the Continental Congress.

Mr. Hooper was again elected to Congress in 1775, and was chairman of the committee which drew up an address to the Assembly of the island of Jamaica. This address was from his pen, and was a clear and able exposition of the existing difficulties between Great Britain and her American Colonies. He was again returned a member in 1776 and was in his seat in time to vote for the Declaration of Independence. He affixed his signature to it, on the second of August following. He was actively engaged in Congress until March 1777, when the derangement [*sic*] of his private affairs, and the safety of his family, caused him to ask for and obtain leave of absence, and he returned home.

Like all the others who signed the Declaration of Independence, Mr. Hooper was peculiarly obnoxious to the British, and on all occasions, they used every means in their power to possess his person, harass his family, and destroy his estate. When the storm of the Revolution subsided, and the sun-light of peace beamed forth, he resumed the practice of his profession, and did not again appear in public life.

He died at Hillsborough in October 1790, aged forty-eight years.

12. From the Colony of South Carolina:



Edward Rutledge. EDWARD RUTLEDGE was of Irish descent. His father, Dr. John Rutledge, emigrated from Ireland to America, in 1735, and settled at Charleston, South Carolina. He there commenced practice as a physician, in which he was very successful, and in the course of a few years, he married a young lady by the name of Hert, who brought him, as a marriage dowry, an ample fortune. When she was twenty-seven years of age, Dr. Rutledge died, and left her with a family of seven children, of whom Edward, was the youngest. He was born in Charleston in November 1749.

After receiving a good English and classical education, young Rutledge commenced the study of law with his elder brother, John, who was then a distinguished member of the Charleston bar. As a finishing stroke in his legal education, preparatory to his admission to the bar, he was sent to England at the age of twenty, and entered as a student at the Inner Temple, London, where he had an opportunity of witnessing the forensic eloquence of those master spirits of the times.

A number of Inns of Court, colleges for teaching the law were established in London at various times. The Temple (of which there were three Societies, namely, the Inner, the Middle, and the Outer) was originally founded, and the Temple Church built, by the Knights Templar, in the reign of Henry II, 1185. The Inner and Middle Temple were made Inns of Law in the reign of Edward III, about 1340; the Outer, not until the reign of Elizabeth, about 1560.

Mr. Rutledge returned to Charleston about the close of 1772 was admitted to the bar, and commenced practice early in 1773. Though young, he had watched with much interest the political movements of the day, and when old enough to act as well as think, he took a decisive stand on the side of the patriots. This, together, with the distinguished talents which he manifested in his first appearance at the bar, drew toward him the attention of the public mind, when the Massachusetts Circular aroused the people to vigorous action. Although then only twenty-five years of age, the convention of South Carolina elected him a delegate to the first General Congress, and he was present at the opening, on the fifth of September 1774. There he was active and fearless, and receiving the entire approbation of his constituents, he was re-elected in 1775 and 1776: and when, preparatory to the consideration to the subject of absolute independence, Congress, by resolution, recommended the several colonies to form permanent government, Mr. Rutledge was associated with Richard Henry Lee and John Adams, in preparing the prefatory preamble to the recommendation. He was warmly in favor of independence, and fearlessly voted for the Declaration, notwithstanding there were large numbers of people in his State opposed to it, some through timidity, some through self-interest, and some through decided attachment to the royal cause.

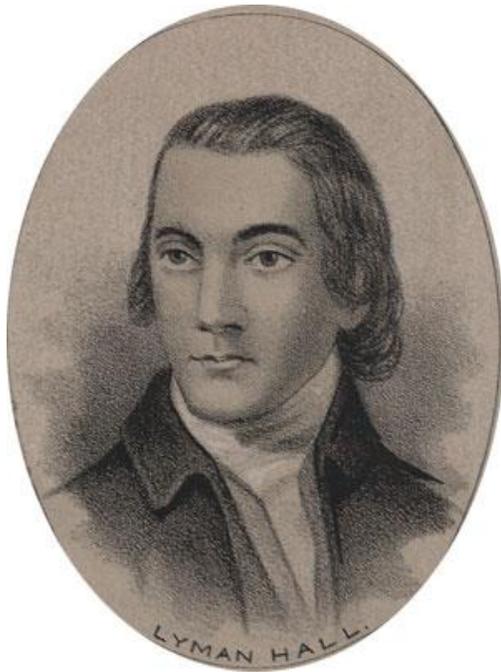
When during the summer of 1776, Lord [Richard] Howe, came commissioned to prosecute the war or negotiate for peace, Mr. Rutledge was appointed one of a committee with Dr. [Benjamin] Franklin and John Adams, to meet him in conference upon Staten Island. The commissioners were instructed not to enter upon negotiations for peace, except in the capacity of representatives of free states, and having independence as a basis. As Lord Howe could not thus receive them, or listen to such proposals, the conference, as was anticipated, failed to produce any important results.

Partly on account of ill health, he withdrew from Congress in 1777. He was actively engaged at home in measures for the defense of the State, and to repel invasion.

In 1780, in one of these operations, in attempting to throw troops into the city, he was taken prisoner, and was afterward sent captive to St. Augustine in Florida. He remained a prisoner nearly a year, and was then exchanged and set at liberty. The bulk of the southern army had been made prisoners. But still hope did not quite expire, and the successes of [General Nathaniel] Green, and victories of [Colonel Francis] Marion and [General Thomas] Sumter, reanimated the fainting hearts of the republicans.

After the British evacuated Charleston in 1781, Mr. Rutledge retired. In 1794, Mr. Rutledge was elected to the United States Senate, to supply the vacancy caused by the resignation of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney; and in 1798 he was elected Governor of his native State. But he did not live to serve out his official term. He caught a severe cold that brought on a paroxysm of his disease and terminated his life on the twenty-third day of January in the year 1800. He was in the sixtieth year of his age.

13. From the Colony of Georgia:



Lyman Hall. LYMAN HALL was born in Connecticut in the year 1721.

His father was possessed of a competent fortune, and he gave his son an opportunity for acquiring a good education. He placed him in in Yale College, at the age of sixteen years, whence he graduated after four years' study. He chose the practice of medicine as a profession, and he entered upon the necessary studies with great ardor, and pursued them with perseverance.

As soon as Mr. Hall had completed his professional studies, and was admitted to practice, with the title of M.D., he married and emigrated to South Carolina in 1752. He first settled at Dorchester but during the year he moved to Sunbury, in the district of Medway in Georgia, whither about forty New England families, then in South Carolina, accompanied him. He was very successful in the practice of his profession, and by his superior intelligence, probity, and consistency of character, he won the unbounded esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens.

Early in 1774 Doctor Hall and a few kindred spirits, endeavored, by calling public meetings, to arouse the people of the province to make common cause with their brethren of the North, but these efforts seemed almost futile. Finally, a general meeting of all favorable to republicanism was called at Savannah in July 1774, but the measures adopted there, were temporizing and noncommittal in a great degree.

Dr. Hall almost despaired of success in persuading Georgia to send delegates to the General Congress, called to meet at Philadelphia in September. He returned to his constituents with a heavy heart, and his report filled them with disgust at the pusillanimity of the other representatives there. Fired with zeal for the cause, and deeply sympathizing with their brother patriots of New England, the people of the parish of St. John resolved to act, in the matter, independent of the rest of the colony, and in March, 1775, they elected Doctor Hall a delegate to the General Congress, and he appeared there with his credentials on the thirtieth of May following. Notwithstanding he was not an accredited delegate of a colony, Congress, by a unanimous vote, admitted him to a seat.

During the summer, Georgia became sufficiently aroused to come out as a colony in favor of the republican cause, and at a convention of the people held in Savannah, in July, five delegates to Congress were elected of whom Doctor Hall was one. He presented his new credentials in May 1776, and he took part in the debates which ensued on the motion of Mr. Lee for Independence. Doctor Hall warmly supported it, and voted for it on the fourth of July. He signed the Declaration on the second of August, and soon afterward returned home for a season.

Doctor Hall was a member of Congress nearly all the while until 1780, when the invasion of his state, by the British, called him home to look after the safety of his family. He arrived there in time to remove them, but was obliged to leave his property entirely exposed to the fury of the foe. He went north, and while the British had possession of the state, and revived royal authority in government there, his property was confiscated.

He returned to Georgia in 1782, just before the enemy evacuated Savannah. The next year he was elected governor of the State. He held office one term, and then retired from public life, and sought happiness in the domestic circle. But that was soon invaded by the arch-destroyer. His only son was cut down in the flower of his youth, and the father did not long survive him. He died in the year 1784, in the sixty-third year of his age, greatly beloved and widely lamented.

NOTE: After the capture of Cornwallis and his army at Yorktown, in 1781, the war virtually ended. Georgia was the only rendezvous for the remnant of the British at the South, in the beginning of the year 1782. In June of that year, General [Anthony] Wayne arrived there with a portion of the Pennsylvania line, and the enemy retreated from all their outposts to Savannah. The State was thus evacuated, and republican authority was re-established. Wayne was attacked within five miles of Savannah, on the twenty-fourth of June, by a party of British and Indians, and in that skirmish Colonel John Laurens was killed. This was the last battle of the Revolution. Cessation of hostilities was proclaimed, and in July the British force evacuated Savannah and the last hostile foot left the soil of Georgia.

Addendum:

Beginning on July 4, 1776 and following over the next six months, fifty-six men wrote their signature on the Declaration of Independence with representatives from all thirteen colonies participating. On September 17, 1787, forty men signed the Constitution of the United States with signatories representing twelve of the original thirteen colonies participating with the State of Rhode Island excepted.

Of the fifty-six men who signed the Declaration, only six affixed their name to the Constitution: Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Robert Morris, Benjamin Franklin, George Clymer, and James Wilson of Pennsylvania, and George Read of Delaware.

Information about each of the thirteen men referenced in this study are excerpted from a book first published in 1848 and reprinted in 1995. Publication data of the book, *Signers of the Declaration of Independence*, and a source for its purchase are posted below.

Benson J. Lossing, *Biographical Sketches of the Signers of the Declaration of American Independence* (New York: George F. Cooledge & Brother, 1848; repr., *Lives of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence*, WallBuilder Press, 1995).

Lives of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence may be purchased from the following link to Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/Signers-Declaration-Independence-Benson-Lossing/dp/0925279455/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1467312728&sr=1-1&keywords=lives+of+the+signers+of+the+declaration+of+independence+1848

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