

Preface

achieved most gallantly his object, but in returning, sad to relate, received a shot in the back and was killed. He was much lamented, for he was not only a brave officer but was most amiable in his disposition and exemplary in his character.

“His excellent father was sitting in Council with the Governor, Sir James Wright, when a countryman was shown in, just arrived from Augusta. On asking him the news from there he said, ‘Not much, only there had been a *scrimmage*.’ Being asked if any lives were lost, he answered, ‘Only Captain Johnston’s.’ We may draw a veil over the father’s feelings; of course, he retired instantly. I will relate one more circumstance to show the heroism of the mother, who was living at the time of the siege of Savannah, though dead at the time of her son Andrew’s death. The siege of Savannah in 1779 was made by the combined forces of French and Americans with about 10,000 men, when the British force was not more than 1,800 men. Colonel Maitland with 500 men had previously gone on an expedition on the Carolina side, and it was feared he would not be able to effect a junction with