

When the break was taking place between South Carolina leaders and the British government, a General Committee was elected by a general meeting in Charleston to coordinate activities. They set up the mechanics for the election of delegates from all sections of South Carolina, elected by freeholders and payers of taxes of twenty shillings currency (about 65 cents) to consider and act on the recommendation of the Continental Congress and take needed action.

The authority of Lieutenant Governor Bull was lessening and this General Committee was daily becoming more important. When the group of 184 elected delegates met in Charles Town on Jan. 11, 1775, it declared itself to be the Provincial Congress.

The General Committee was becoming the real executive branch of government and the Provincial Congress was emerging as the real legislative body of the "Province in rebellion." The first session met in Charles Town from Jan. 11, 1775 to Jan. 17, 1775 and the second session from June 1, 1775 to June 22, 1775.

The following list of members is taken from Vol. 2, Appendix V of *McCrary's History of South Carolina* with additional names added as found in *The Biographical Directory of The South Carolina House of Representatives*, Vol. I, Session Lists, 1692-1973.

For St. John's, Berkeley: James Ravenel, Daniel Ravenel, Job Marion, John Frierson, Esqs., Mr. Gabriel Gignilliat, Mr. Francis Marion.

For St. Thomas and St. Denis: James Akin, Isaac Harleston, John Huger, John Moore, William Parker, John Syme, Esqs.

For St. James, Goose Creek: Thomas Smith, Sr., Esq., Colonel Benjamin Singleton, John Parker, Benjamin Smith, John Izard, John Wright, Esqs.

For St. Stephen's: John Gaillard, Philip Porcher, Esq., Pete Sinkler, Charles Cantey, Gabriel Marion, Esqs., Mr. James Sinkler.

For St. James, Santee: Col. Daniel Horry, Paul Douxsaint, Esq., Thomas Horry, Edward Jermain (Jerman), Thomas Lynch, Jr., Capers Boone, Esq.