



Dr. David Oliphant Director General of Hospitals Southern Command

Dr. David Oliphant was born in Scotland in 1720. After studying medicine in Edinburgh, Scotland, he immigrated to Charleston, South Carolina in 1747. In 1775 he served on the Dorchester Counsel of Safety restoring order and replacing the British crown officials after South Carolina declared its independence. He was appointed by John Rutledge (the President of South Carolina) to serve as the director of the South Carolina medical department while troops were being raised to fight the British. The Continental Congress in Philadelphia subsequently named him as Director-General of Hospitals of the Southern Department on June 1, 1776. Dr. Oliphant was taken as a prisoner of war during the British siege of Charleston, but was later paroled and exchanged. And continued to serve under General Nathaniel Greene as Director General of Hospitals running his hospital at Ashley Hill, St George Parish. He returned to his medical practice and his General Assembly seat after being honorably discharged from his military duties in 1783. In 1786, Dr. Oliphant relocated to Newport, Rhode Island, where he practiced medicine until his death in 1805.