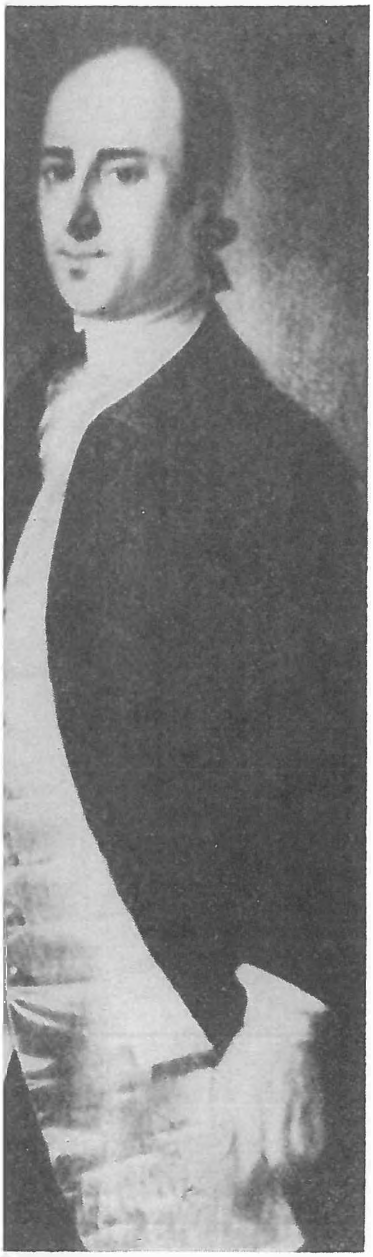

AS A YOUNG MAN
shua Reynolds

# The Writings of Christopher Gadsden

1746-1805

Edited

by RICHARD WALSH

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The University of South Carolina Press
Columbia, South Carolina 1966

CHRISTOPHER GADSDEN AS A YOUNG MAN
*Attributed to Sir Joshua Reynolds*

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# Illustrations

Notes on the illustrations are on pages 315–17.


Page dated August 23, 1764, in the Journal of the South Carolina Commons House of Assembly. *Courtesy of the South Carolina Archives Department.* *endpapers*

Christopher Gadsden as a young man, attributed to Sir Joshua Reynolds. *Courtesy of Mr. George D. Shore, Jr., of Sumter, South Carolina.* *frontispiece*

Advertisement for Gadsden's Wharf at Charles Town, from *The South-Carolina Gazette,* March 6, 1773. *Courtesy of the South Carolina Historical Society.* *facing page* 4

Gadsden's "Notice" for business as a factor, from *The South-Carolina Gazette,* October 11, 1773. *Courtesy of the South Carolina Historical Society.* *facing page* 36

Drawing of Gadsden's Wharf, by Vernon Bailey Howe in 1906, from Mrs. St. Julien Ravenel's *Charleston: The Place and the People. Copyright 1906 The Macmillan Company. Renewed 1934 by Frances G. Buist. Reprinted by permission.* *page* 90

Drawing of Gadsden's flag. *Courtesy of the* William and Mary Quarterly. *page* 110

Title page of Gadsden's copy of the *Journal* of the Continental Congress. *Courtesy of the College of Charleston.* *facing page* 132

Page of Gadsden's shorthand interleaved in his *Journal* of the Continental Congress. *Courtesy of the College of Charleston.* *facing page* 164

Plat of "Middlesex," Gadsden's property at Charles Town. *Courtesy of the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina.* *facing page* 228

Christopher Gadsden in late life, by Rembrandt Peale about 1795–97. *Courtesy of Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia.* *facing page* 260




Christopher Gadsden
thoroughly sincere; of
integrity. . . . He poss
danger, but that persist
nor the threat of death
same time inquisitive
fortune for public ends,
low, and knew not how

In these words, Chris
George Bancroft.

Bancroft said further
through the vast expans
it remembered that the
ness of South Carolina.
when we count up those
result, we are to nam
the magnanimous, unw
Gadsden." [1]

Gadsden was born F
Captain) Thomas Gads
collector of Charles To
Robert and Thomas, an
Thomas dying before C

A year after Christop
years later his father wa
son Philip was born. T
died, and in 1731 occu
Gadsden then married
least two children, Jame

[1] George Bancroft, *Histo*
Brown & Co., 1857), V, 29
[2] Biographical Sketches
wether, *DAB*, XII, 82-83, A
Charles Scribner's Sons, 19
*tions of the Southern Histor*
Ramsay, *History of South*
author], 1809), II, 457-66;

to forget the faithful serv-
Elsy, Nanny's Offspring to
ing never parted with one,
unt and deserves regard, so
n in Law Thomas Morris,
n Drayton and my Grand
l lawful Executors to this
Grand Sons Christopher
en Morris when they shall
tness to this my last Will
l seal this 5th day of June
hundred and four, and in
of the United States.

R GADSDEN (L.S.)

*Christopher Gadsden the*
*st Will and Testament in*
*in his presence, and in the*
*our Names as Witnesses*

— *Joseph Pritchard*
*T.D. September 18, 1805.*
*ilip Gadsden and William*
*ied Christopher Gadsden*

*Appendix*

## Notes on the Illustrations

PAGE DATED AUGUST 23, 1764, IN THE JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COMMONS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY *(endpapers)*.

Judging from the aggressive and provocative nature of the committee's reply, the Answer to Council appears to have been written by Christopher Gadsden who was named among those to act in rebuttal. Others were the Messrs. Thomas Bee, Gabriel Manigault, John Rutledge and William Henry Drayton.

The Answer refutes the right of Council to amend the Tax Bill to add £7,000 currency, or two years' salary, for the unpopular chief executive, Thomas Boone, whom the Commons had petitioned for removal. Boone had returned home May 14, 1764, virtually driven from office in South Carolina; and Lieutenant Governor William Bull had summoned the Assembly to meet as the summer was nearing its end.

Council's attempt to amend the Money Bill was responsible for the message issuing from the Committee which stated: "The Sum Annually inserted in the Schedule for the Governor, is not a Salary—but a Gratuity from the People; which it would be stupid in them to bestow upon a Governor, who has endeavoured to deprive them, of what ought to be valued by every Englishman [their rights], more than even life itself."

CHRISTOPHER GADSDEN AS A YOUNG MAN *(frontispiece)*.

Controversy over this portrait has arisen. From the collection of George D. Shore, Sumter, South Carolina, the painting of Gadsden is attributed to Sir Joshua Reynolds, and in the opinion of art experts in the South, it can be none other than a Reynolds' portrait. The Frick Art Reference Library of New York lists the portrait among the works of Jeremiah Theus, colonial artist of Charles Town;[1] Margaret Middleton, author of *Jeremiah Theus, Colonial Artist of Charles Town,* disputes the attribution.

[1] Letter to editor, July 27, 1966, from Mrs. Henry W. Howell, Jr., who stated: "Mr. Lawrence Park and Mr. William Sawitzky, both authorities in the field of colonial portraiture, considered the portrait [Gadsden] to be the work of Jeremiah Theus." But Mrs. Middleton, author of *Jeremiah Theus,* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1953), p. 132, states: "The compiler has seen only a photograph of this portrait of the Revolutionary patriot and regrets that she has been unable to locate the original. The photograph is used as one of several photographs making up the frontispiece of John J. Dargan's History of South Carolina [*School History of South Carolina.* Columbia: The State Company], published in 1906. Efforts to locate this portrait have not been successful. It is possible that it is a miniature."