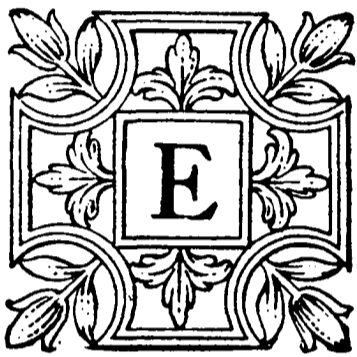


## CHAPTER FOUR

*Edward Langworthy, Patriot, Member of the Continental Congress from Georgia, School Teacher, Printer, and Historian*



EDWARD LANGWORTHY, whose association with Goddard as partner was announced in the *Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser* on January 26, 1785, had already distinguished himself as a school teacher, secretary to the Committee of Safety of Georgia and Member of the Continental Congress. He was born about 1738 and was left an orphan early in life. Fortunately, Georgia was particularly well provided for the care and education of fatherless children. The Rev. George Whitefield had in 1738 procured a grant of five hundred acres of land and over £1000 in contributions with which he founded the famous Bethesda Orphan House. The education which Langworthy received during his stay there was probably very similar to that described by Whitefield in his original plan which was printed as a preface to *Account of Money received and expended for the Poor of Georgia*:

“It may be further considered, that the children, to be maintained in the Orphan House, are to be bred up to manual labour from their very infancy; and that the persons to be employed in their education, it is to be hoped, have the glory of God at heart, and desire no other gratuity than food and raiment.”<sup>1</sup>

Langworthy probably supplemented what formal education he received from the teachers with reading from the library that had been contributed by charitable people in England.

His activities after leaving Bethesda seem to have been directed toward getting a position as a teacher, for in 1771 in a letter from James Habersham to the Countess Dowager of Huntington the following passage occurs:

“A young man, one Mr. Langworthy, has expressed a great Desire to be employed as a Tutor at the Orphan House. He has for more than a year past kept a School in this Town . . . I am en-

<sup>1</sup> Luke Tyerman, *Life of the Rev. George Whitefield*. 2nd ed. London, 1890. Vol. I, p. 543.