

# Charles Cotesworth Pinckney

South Carolina (medium state)

## Personal Background

You were born in South Carolina in 1746. As a boy, you accompanied your father, a prominent planter, to England. You graduated from Oxford and then studied law and science. After returning to South Carolina in 1769, you practiced law and became an officer in the royal militia. You soon joined the Patriot cause and helped plan a temporary new government for South Carolina. During the Revolutionary War, you rose to the rank of colonel and also served in the state legislature. You spent nearly two years as a prisoner of the British.

You are a leading participant at the Constitutional Convention, speaking out for a powerful national government and defending the institution of slavery.

## Views on Issues at the Constitutional Convention

**Issue 1:** You believe that the national legislature should have two houses. In the lower house, states should be represented based on their population. In the upper house, each state should have one vote.

**Issue 2:** You believe that slaves should be counted equally with other people in determining a state's representation in the national legislature.

**Issue 3:** You believe that the executive should be elected by the national legislature.

**Sign the Constitution?** Yes.