

## [Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

South Carolina Audited Accounts<sup>1</sup> relating to Sylvester Dunn SC2520  
Audited Account No. 2094A

pp24

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/15/20

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

Certify that Sylvester Dunn has Surrendered himself to me & has subscribed his Allegiance to the United States & abjured George ye Third King of Great Britain &c.

He is therefore to be protected in person & property & be considered a Citizen. By order of General Marion [Francis Marion  
Camp Watboo [Wadboo]  
7<sup>th</sup> of October 82

S/ Thomas Elliott  
Aid de Camp

*Certify that Sylvester Dunn has surrendered himself to me & has subscribed his Allegiance to the United States & abjur'd Geo. ye Third King of Great Britain &c. He is therefore to be protected in person & property & be considered a Citizen. By order of Francis Marion  
Camp Watboos  
7<sup>th</sup> Oct. 82*

*Thomas Elliott  
Aid de Camp*

[p 5]

South Carolina

Salem County Camden District

To the Honorable the Speaker and House of Representatives

The Humble petition of Sylvester Dunn

Sheweth to your Honors,

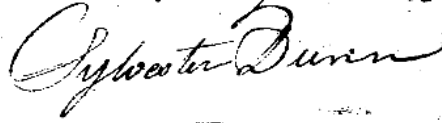
That your petitioner was Divested of Twelve Negro Slaves in the year 1781, in the Month of May by Colonel John Marshal [John Marshel], and Ten of Said Negroes were appropriated to the use of paying General Sumters [Thomas Sumter's] State

<sup>1</sup> The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The "SC" file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

Troops,<sup>2</sup> your petitioner has made repeated application to your Honorable House for redress, and the Session in December Last reported that the prayers of the petition be Granted and that a Law be brought in for that purpose your petitioner now comes forward praying that your Honors may take his case in consideration and Grant him Such relief as the Nature of his case may require and your Petitioner, as in Duty bound will ever pray.

6<sup>th</sup> [?] December 1794

S/ Sylvester Dunn





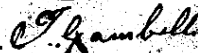
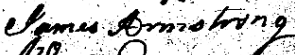


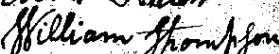

[p 6]

South Carolina

Salem County}

We the Subscribers hereby certify that Mr. Sylvester Dunn of Black River Salem behaved himself in the late War between America & Great Britain as a good Friend of his Country duly performing his Tour of Militia Duty in Defense of this State whenever called upon until after the Capitulation of Charleston [Charleston fell to the British on May 12, 1780]. At that Time when the State was entirely in possession of the Enemy he removed to Charleston that he might being an old Man not capable of taking such an active part as it was then necessary for every Man to take on one Side or the other more effectually secure himself from Danger. He resided in Charleston until the Honorable General Marion issued a proclamation in which he promised protection to the Persons & Property of all those who would leave Charleston & accept of his Offer. At which time said Sylvester Dunn came into the Camps of General Marion & served as a Militia Man until the Evacuation of Charleston [the British evacuated Charleston in December 1782]. And we further certify that as far as we could learn said Sylvester Dunn never injured the Persons or Property of any Friends to America & that he has been a Resident of this Settlement Upwards of thirty years during which time he has behaved himself as an honest and industrious Man – We as Neighbors & Acquaintances of Mr. Dunn heartily [undeciphered word] his Loss of twelve Negroes which Colonel Marshal's Certificate will show were appropriated to public Use in paying the State Troops under the Command of the Honorable General Thomas Sumpter earnestly desire that your Honorable Body the Legislature of this State would take his Case into serious Consideration & allow a Compensation for what he earned in an honest and industrious Manner. Given under our Hands this first day of April 1794.

To the Legislature of South Carolina Columbia

	S/ Moses Gordon Senior
	S/ E. Cooker [?]
	S/ T. Gambell
	S/ James Armstrong
	S/ George Anderson
	S/ Adam Stuart
	S/ William Thompson
	S/ Roger Wilson

<sup>2</sup> Men who enlisted in the 10-month State Troops of Light Dragoons under General Thomas Sumter were promised payment in the form of Negro slaves confiscated from the Tories. This form of payment was referred to as "Sumter's Wages."

[p 9]

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Sylvester Dunn –,  
Report,

That they have considered the same & are of opinion, That the petitioner is entitled to relief. – It appears to your Committee from the statement of the petition & the facts accompanying it, That his Negroes were taken by Colonel John Marshall of the State troops, & that he is entitled to compensation. – They apprehend the lapse of Time, which has taken place, ought not to bar the petitioner as he was unable before to support his claim by proper vouchers.  
December 12<sup>th</sup>, 1795

[p 11]

State South Carolina –

I Certify in the year 1781 Colonel John Marshall of Camden district delivered Ten or Twelve Negroes to Colonel Henry Hampton of the State Brigade, who by my orders Served the whole of them to Men of his Regiment in payment for their Service rendered, or to be rendered to the State which Negroes aforesaid Colonel Marshall report[ed] to have been Taken from the plantation of Sylvester Dunn of Salem, Black River –

The above facts are render[ed] indubitable by a full Discussion of the subject in the Superior Court of Camden –  
28<sup>th</sup> of October 1796

S/ Thos. Sumter

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thos. Sumter". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

[p 14: The image of the following document is very poor. Rely on the transcript with caution.]

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Sylvester Dunn  
Report

That we have investigated the circumstances [text too faint to discern] and are of opinion that [text too faint to discern] in truth and justice. –

It appears to your Committee from the statements and Vouchers accompanying the Petition, that ten [text too faint to discern] Petitioner's Slaves were taken from him [text too faint to discern] Militia in the time of the American War which were distributed to the State Troops in payment. – It appears that the Petitioner was a peaceful & inoffensive Character during the war and at the time when those Negroes were taken from him although he was himself with the British yet his family and property were under the particular protection of General Marion against whose positive Orders he was deprived of those Negroes. It further appears to your Committee that soon after the peace, the Petitioner had a contest at Law which decided the right of the aforesaid Negroes against the Petitioner, in favor of those to whom the said Negroes had been distributed, and who were protected in the taking and distribution of the same by an Act of the Legislature of this State.


It appears also to your said Committee That immediately after the aforesaid determination at Law your Petitioner made and has constantly since made continual application to the Legislature for relief; and that his application has always been favorably received, But

owing to some accident, or circumstances which your Committee are not acquainted with, no relief has hitherto been afforded –

Your Committee do therefore recommend, that the Petitioner appears to be justly entitled to compensation for the Negroes which he has lost, & which have been appropriated to the use of the State Troops that leave be given to bring a Bill to afford him relief in the Principles.

6<sup>th</sup> December 1796

[pp 16-24: The documents posted on these pages relate to a petition made in December 1805 by Roger Dunn and Sylvester Dunn, allegedly sons and heirs of Sylvester Dunn petitioned the state legislature for compensation for the slaves confiscated from their father during the war. Their petition repeats the allegations contained in their father's petition. Their petition was not granted but the reasons for rejecting it are not stated in the documents in this file. There purported signatures appear as follows:



Handwritten signatures of Roger Dunn and Sylvester Dunn, enclosed in a rectangular box with a right-facing bracket. The signatures are written in cursive script.