

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to John Sansum SC38
Audited Account No. 6754

AA24²

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/29/17

[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 'indecipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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To the Honorable John Lloyd Esquire President and the Members of the Honorable the Senate
The Petition of Mary Sansum Widow of the late John Sansum deceased
Humbly Sheweth –

That your Petitioner is Executrix of the Estate of her late Husband John Sansum, who during the late War, was in the service of this State as Forage Master General, that at the time of his Death, his Accounts with the State was not finally liquidated, by the Auditor General, but that in some short time thereafter your Petitioner called at the Office of the Auditor General, and found the Accounts liquidated and conveyed into the Treasury for payment, that your Petitioner then received Indents to the full Amount of the demand rendered in by her late Husband as likewise the Indent arising thereon she has regularly received, until the last year, your Petitioner then was informed by the Treasurer, that they could not pay any further Interest as the Auditor General had found out since his Books were brought up a charge of £159.625., disassociated Currency which was advanced your Petitioner's late Husband, which he had not accounted for, and that until your Petitioner could produce vouchers for the appropriation of those sums, she must refund the Indents and Interest received –

Your Petitioner would beg leave to observe that in the year 1781 [sic, likely 1780 based on her reference herein to the fall of Charleston] her late Husband, was among several other Citizens sent to Saint Augustine a prisoner by the British, and left the most of his Books and papers with your Petitioner (excepting one of his Forage Books, which the British troops took from him at Camden, when he was taken a Prisoner, just before the fall of Charleston [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], and destroyed it) that your Petitioner was among others, in the month of October 1781 ordered by the British Commandant to depart from Charleston to Philadelphia, where her late Husband then was, that your Petitioner with some other families boarded a Vessel to convey them to that place, that after having all their baggage on board, and was ready to sail, a most violent storm came on, which stove the Vessel then lying at the Wharf, in such a manner as demolished the most of your Petitioner's baggage,

¹ The South Carolina Audited Accounts are available on microfilm at the South Carolina Department of Archives & History in Columbia, SC. They will eventually be available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. The "SC" file number has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.

² This same file includes claims by at least 3 different men named John Sansum. One claim is for the hire of a Schooner named Fanny and supply of fishing nets (seines)

in which was the Books and papers of nearly the whole transactions of the Forage department which put it out of the power of her late Husband to furnish the whole of the necessary vouchers – Your Petitioner would beg leave to observe that she is ready to attest the authenticity of the above and to bring proof of the facts, That your Petitioner's only support for herself and three children, was on the Interest arising on those Indents, that since she has been deprived of that resource, she has been compelled to apply for the children's support to the bounty of the South Carolina Society, that being the Case, and as the vouchers were lost by the casualties of War, your Petitioner humbly solicits your Honorable House, that you would be pleased to direct the Auditor General to audit the Accounts, upon the principle of the Vouchers being lost, and that the Treasurer the likewise directed to pay your Petitioner the Interest on the Indents as usual, annual Petitioner as in duty bound will pray.

October 1788

S/ Mary Sansum

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Sansum". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat stylized, with a prominent initial "M". The signature is written on a light-colored background.

[Note: The Petition was denied and the determination made that the petitioner should refund the Indent and all the interest previously paid thereon.]