

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to John Lewis Gervais² SC605
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 2765

AA29

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/20/18

[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.]

[p 2: form of Indent No. 267 Book AA dated October 26, 1779 acknowledging receipt into the SC Treasury from Colonel John Lewis Gervais of Ten Thousand Nine Hundred & thirty three pounds as a Loan to the state from Martins & Eytelwein of Amsterdam with interest at the rate of £1093.6 per annum from October 26, 1779.]

[p 5]

[illegible, could be 2014] [Book] & 31st Jan 86 [1786]
No. 100

John Lewis Gervais for Cash paid to Edward Hadley, Jeremiah Kimmers and Joseph Dawson for being Expresses to his Excellency the President the 25th May & 27th & 30th June 1776 amtg.
[amounting] to Currency £276.5
Stg [Sterling] £39.9.3 ¼

Ex^d. J. M^c. A. G." [Executed by John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 6]

No. 66

No. 558

Lib. [Book] S} 21st June 1785

John Lewis Gervais Esqr. For a Horse lost in 1781 on Militia Service

Appraised to £40

Ex^d. J. M^c. A. G." [Executed by John McCall, Adjutant General]

Rec'd 21st June 1785 full satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 558 Book X for J. L. Gervais by Virtue of an Order

S/ Thos. Johnson

¹ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [ENTER ON-LINE RECORDS INDEX](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Individual" 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.

² The file jacket also includes the names of Martins & Eytelwein and Andrew Williamson, both in brackets.

for John Lewis Gervais

S/ Thos. Johnson

[p 11]

The State of South Carolina

To John Lewis Gervais

Dr.

For provisions delivered by Wm Hall [William Hall] Overseer at his plantation in Ninety Six District as follows Viz.

1779

Dec. 14th To 300 Bushells Corn for the use of the public as per James
No. 1 Moore's Order & Mr. Robt. Melvill's [Robert Melville?]

Receipt at 15 Dollars per bushel is 4,500 Dollars

£ S d

£7312.10 Deprecation at 3,233 is £226.3.7 ¾ or £32.6.2 ¾

32 9 6

1780

May 9th To 40 Bushells Corn delivered to John Harris Deputy

No. 2 Comissary [Commissary] per his Receipt at 3/6 Stg

7

May 22nd To 45 Bushells Corn Delivered to Lieutenant Col.

No. 3 George Reed per his Receipt at 3/6 Stg

7 17 6

29th To 429 Bushells Corn Delivered to Mr. Robt Melvill

No. 4 per his Receipt at 3/6

75 1 6

30th To 210 lbs Smoaked beef at 4d per lb

3 10

No. 5 120 of Bacon at 46/8 per 100 lbs

2 16

30th To Six Bushells Salt per Robt. Melvill's Receipt at 18/8

5 12

No. 6

£134.6.6

Less 3.3

£134.3.3

William Hall maketh Oath that he delivered the above provisions form Mr. Gervais' plantation in Ninety Six District, before the Surrender of Charleston [sic, Charleston, SC, fell to the British on May 12, 1780] was known, that he gave the Vouchers to Said John Lewis Gervais at Jacksonborough in 1782 that he the Deponent has never Received payment for any part thereof. Sworn to before me this 25th June 1784.

S/ Philip Friemon, JP

Charleston District

The Equity of the above Acct. Attested to before me this 23rd day of August 1784

John McCall, JP

S/ John Lewis Gervais

[pp 14-15—the vouchers Nos. 1-5 referred to above as given by James Moore, Robert Melvill, John Harris, and George Reed]

[p 16]

To the Honorable the President and Members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina

The Memorial and Petition of John Lewis Gervais humbly Sheweth

That after the British Invasion of this State in the year 1780 your Memorialist attending his Duty with the Governor as one of the Privy Council his estate with many others was sequestered, his Plantation in Ninety Six District was laid waste, and his Negroes were removed from thence to

Charleston where several of them died with the Small Pox & other disorders.

That at the Evacuation of Charleston by the British through the good offices of some of his friends such of his Negroes as were not carried off by the Enemy (your Memorialist being still absent in the Public Service) were taken care of by a friend on his Plantation near Charleston – that your Memorialist’s return to the State in the Summer 1783 he underwent a long and painful Illness which disabled him for a great while to attend to the remains of his Scattered fortune – That unable to review[?] his settlement in the back Country, as well on account of his bad State of health as on account of the Scarcity of Provisions to be procured there at that time for the subsistence of his Negroes, necessity compelled him to settle them below and in order to employ them with some prospect of advantage he purchased a Plantation of Confiscated property on Cooper River containing one thousand six hundred and twenty seven acres of Land for fourteen thousand one hundred Sixty three pounds payable in State Indents which in their most depreciated State was the full Value of it. That your Memorialist from the Crops he expected to make thereon, & from monies due to him thought himself competent to pay for the same – But that said Plantation being entirely out of order when he purchased the same, having not a since standing and the River dam being in a most ruinous Condition his Crops failed, and the best he made thereon did not answer his Capitalizations [?] – That in addition to these misfortunes the distresses of the Citizens in General occasioned an act to be passed to regulate the Sheriffs’ Sales as also the Installment Acts which prevented your Memorialist to receive monies due to him and disabled him to procure Indents. That in order nevertheless to comply with the terms of his purchase a friend advanced him upwards of ten thousand pounds in Indents belonging to an Estate. That he paid to the Attorney General in December 1789 upwards of seventeen thousand pounds Principal & Interest for said Purchase which Indents your Memorialist presumes remained still in his hands & no receipt has been given to him – That your Memorialist also purchased at their earnest solicitations a family of eight Negroes belonging formally to said Plantation which Indents were at Ten for one for Three thousand Pounds which remain unpaid with part of the Interest—Said Negroes consisted then of three Workers only, four children, one of whom is lame & will never be able to Work & a supernumerated old Man of whom it is Charity to take care [of]. That these purchases as above stated were in a great measure the result of necessity and misfortunes Yet in the ordinary wane [?]³ of things the prices given would have been equal to the Value.---But the forming a new Constitution for the United States, the New Federal Government Assuming the [ink blot covers text, probably ‘public debt’] were unforeseen Events beyond the reach of [ink blot covers text, could be ‘human’] foresight, otherwise no man of common prudence would have made purchases in State Indents which by reason of these Circumstances are become distressing and even ruinous & must involve your Memorialist with a large family of Eight Young Children to great [indecipherable word].⁴

That from the Circumstances above Stated as also from the heavy losses sustained by Depreciation, your Memorialist having unfortunately been engaged in the Sale of Several Cargoes of Negroes shortly before the War & had considerable Sums paid in Depreciated Money for which the Proprietors of said Cargoes expect under the Treaty of Peace to be fully paid for in Specie. By all the [indecipherable word] Events your Memorialist’s fortune will be greatly

³ *W. W. M.*

⁴ *James M. M.*

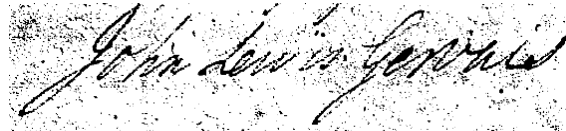
impaired if not totally ruined. That his endeavors since the War to retrieve his losses by Trade have also proved [indecipherable word] through the amazing losses sustained and [indecipherable word].

That your Memorialist finally hopes it cannot be the wish of any to benefit the State upon the ruin of its Members, (arising from Circumstances altogether fortuitous,) by exacting more than the real Value of purchases made, That upon Similar Considerations the Legislature generously relieved on a former occasion purchases for property bought at too high a rate in specie and received State Indents in payment, and in other instances have taken the property back again from the purchasers.

That if your Memorialist had paid for his purchases in the usual course of obtaining Indents he should not presume to intrude himself upon your Honorable House, but that your Memorialist humbly hopes that the Indents deposited with the Attorney General being returned to him cannot in the present situation of the public Debt injure the State and would enable him to return those he borrowed, otherwise the State to which they are due may be subject to great Inconveniences if not losses, as it is well known that the sale of Landed property which would be your Memorialist's only recourse [ink blot covers text] anything equal to its real value.

Wherefore from the above State of Facts your Memorialist prays your Honorable House that he may be relieved from his present embarrassment by taking back the property purchased, although your Memorialist has made great & valuable improvements on the Plantation, or that your Memorialist should retain the same at a fair and just Valuation in specie, and that the Indents paid for the same be returned to your Memorialists, or to Grant him such other relief in the premises as shall be deemed consistent with Justice and Equality and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound will always pray for the Honor, Welfare, and Prosperity of the State.

S/ John Lewis Gervais

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Lewis Gervais", written in dark ink on a light background.

Ex^d. J. M^c. A. G.” [Executed by John McCall, Adjutant General]