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,
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

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