

Moses Ashley Curtis diary, September 1831 (page 5 of 7)

Sept. 13th Morn. - We did not wake this morning & find our throats cut, & in this house had as quiet sleep as ever. In the garrison was no room to sleep. Those women who at last revived under a sense of their perfect security had a fine frolic, declaring they never popped so sport a night in their lives; while the frantic & timid were plying their noses with cologne, honey & lavender waters & hartshorn. The poor folks who were sleeping peacefully at home popped a review there for not falling in with the current of fearful ones. I hope we shall none of us die for running such a gaunt let. - The light of the sun seems to have infused the light of reason into their minds at this late hour, & none of them were at all alarmed & only went to the garrison because the rest went.

Evening - At 5 o'clock the inhabitants met to form a corps of defence. I enrolled my own name, took a musket & ammunition & came home, with a requisition to meet them at 7 o'clock. In the mean time the boat arrived from town. - We met at seven & delivered back our arms. - This is the silliest move of all, in running now into the extreme of neglect. - But the story is simple & short. A few revellers some miles above W. procured a field piece which they frequently discharged during a night, which gave an alarm.

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