

## Moses Ashley Curtis diary, September 1831 (page 4 of 7)

thought I. I found but one man, a clergyman & a northerner, who was at all cheerful & fearless. Him I addressed, but found that no arrangements had been made for the night & I went home. The women at home were now more under exercise of reason, & having no inclination to follow their timid sisters & repose under the muzzles of the great cannon & of fat. - After some waiting I sallied out again, & found an old lady just starting for the garrison in a high flurry. I offered my arms. "Where are all your folks?" "at home" - I offered my services again. "No, no, (looking round a dozen times) I can get along" - "But let me hold your umbrella, madam" - "Oh, no, no, you go home & take care of your children" - So I walked on behind, her advice notwithstanding. - Then at the garrison - "Where are all your children, Mr. C." said the women. "They are asleep" said I - "Oh" sighed the women at my temerity. I found that most of the town were arriving to comfort the women & were to patrol the village through the night. So I came home & at the solicitation of the women have placed a gun in my room charged with two balls. Now what a contemptible fuss for nothing at all, except a want of reason & judgment. - I intend to sleep as quietly as usual, though few eyes will close in this town to night. I believe that ours is the only family out of the garrison.

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