

Moses Ashley Curtis diary, September 1831 (page 3 of 7)

"Oh! the express has come from W. saying that 200 blacks are within 20 miles of W. & advising us to be on our guard." — "Oh! you had better go to bed. If they are as far off as that you may sleep easy to night." — At last the elder mistress gets the story, & a young Miss in the family. I packed children off to bed to save them & fidgets, & heard the women express their concern & the young Miss wail most bitterly, while I sat by & tried to console by reason & ridicule. "Why, the story is false in the face. Two hundred men so fool hardy as to march on such a place as W. in open day? And if they should, the volunteer company of twice their number will annihilate them before they are within 10 miles of the town, & 50 whites could disperse 200 blacks. What are you frightened about?" — I at last concluded to go out & learn the truth of the case. — Fear & despair, what confusion! The women were all flying or fled with their trinkets & mattresses to the garrison. I overtook one with two children with whom I walked on; & when I reached the garrison there were 120 women packed in a small dwelling half dead with fear. One was stretched out on a mattress in the hysterics, a number faint-ed, & one was jabbering nonsense, in a fit of derangement. A few men too I noticed with tremulous voices, & solemn visages, pacing back & forth in fearful anxiety. Hang 'em!

Usage Statement:

Public Domain

Public Domain is a copyright term that is often used when talking about copyright for creative works. Under U.S. copyright law, individual items that are in the public domain are items that are no longer protected by copyright law. This means that you do not need to request permission to re-use, re-publish or even change a copy of the item. Items enter the public domain under U.S. copyright law for a number of reasons: the original copyright may have expired; the item was created by the U.S. Federal Government or other governmental entity that views the things it creates as in the public domain; the work was never protected by copyright for some other reason related to how it was produced (for example, it was a

speech that wasn't written down or recorded); or the work doesn't have enough originality to make it eligible for copyright protection.

Source URL: <https://ncpedia.org/media/moses-ashley-curtis-diary-3>