

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 ex-
ercise of reason, & having no inclination to follow
their timid sisters & repose under the muzzles of
the great cannon & fort. - 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 soli-
licitation of the women have placed a gun in
my room charged with two balls. Now what
a contemptible fuss for nothing at all, ex-
cept a want of reason & judgment. - I intend
to sleep as quietly as usual, though few
eyes will close in this town to night. I be-
lieve that ours is the only family out of
garrison.

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