"Slave Stampede," Woodsville (MS) *Republican*, June 3, 1851 https://stampedes.dickinson.edu/document/woodsville-ms-republican-slave-stampede-june-3-1851

"During the inst wook a lonve-taking fever has prevasied among the slaves in this section. On Standey night a woman and three children, the property of F. M. Wheedon of our city, left. On Wednesdey night, sincteen in one gaug left their owners in Lowis; eight belonging to Mrs. Eliza Shepperd, two to Charles Wond, and the remainder, ewners mames not assortanced. From Nicholas, several have also departed for freedom during the past few days."

If the componise bill, and the determination off the North to restrict slavery to its present area, are to be carried out and rigidly observed, the above quotation presents the only hops of safety to the South. Our contracted area, the rapid increase of the black population, and the probable decrease of the white population, will, in a few years, give the negro such preponderence over na that they will become discontented with their condition, and seek to change it. In this event; it is revolting to contemplate the result. We pray God, in His infinite mescy, to so ordain, that if the compromise is to be the perpetuated law of this land, we may be relieved from a redundant black population by some such process as the above. It is the only way we can be relieved from it.

Ohio will not let a southerner liberate his slave and send him to that State to reside; but, if the southerner carries his negro there, Ohio will steal him, or, if she gets a chance, she will induce the negro to stampede. We do not wish any man to loose his property, but we believe that Southern people will find it to be their interest not to attempt to reclaim their slaves, when they stampede. To say nothing of the pecuniary objection to such an attempt, stronger objectious could be raised, on political grounds.

Slave Stampedes on the Missouri Borderlands National Park Service Network to Freedom / House Divided Project at Dickinson College