"Trouble at Harper's Ferry," Newark (NJ) *Centinel of Freedom*, October 18, 1859 https://stampedes.dickinson.edu/document/newark-nj-centinel-freedom-trouble-harpers-ferryoctober-18-1859

By Telegraph Last Night.

[We give the following despatches as they have been received during the day. The affair referred to yet lacks a plausible explanation.]

TROUBLE AT HARPER'S FERRY. Supposed Slave Insurrection.

BALTIMORS, October 18.—A despatch just received here from Frederick, dated this morning, states that an insurrection has broken out at Harper's Ferry, where an armed band of abolitionists have full possession of the government arsenal. The express train going East was twice fired into, and one of the railroad hands and a negro killed while they were endeavoring to get the train through the town.

The insurrectionists stopped and arrested two men who had come to town with a load of wheat, and seizing their wagon, loaded it with ritles and sent them into Maryland.

The insurrectionists number about 250 whites and are aided by a gang of negroes. At last ac' counts fighting was going on.

[SECOND DESPATOR.]

A later despatch received at the R. R. Office says the affair has been greatly exagerated. The roports had their foundation in a difficulty at the Armory, with which negroes had nothing to do.

[THIRD DESPATOR.]

BALTINGER, 1 P. M.—It is apprehended that the affair at Harper's Ferry is more serious than our citizens seem willing to believe. The wires from Harper's Ferry are cut and consequently we have no telegraphic communication beyond Monocacy station. The Southern train which was due here at an early hour this morning has not yet arrived. It is rumored that there is a stampede of negroes from this State. There are many other wild rumors, but nothing authentic as yet.

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