"Stampede of Slaves," St. Johnsbury (VT) *Caledonian*, June 23, 1855 https://stampedes.dickinson.edu/document/st-johnsbury-vt-caledonian-stampede-slavesjune-23-1855

> STAMPEDE OF SLAVES .- The negroes had been worked and paid no wages for many years on the plantation of Mr. Byrnes, of Bourdon County. They had been observed on several evenings to mysteriously absent themselves from their owner's premises, and on Wednesday night they were watched by a son of Mr. Byrnes, who saw them in a secluded spot, about half a mile from the house. in conversation with a couple of white men, with whom they were talking for upward of an hour. Informing his father of this occurrence, the latter became alarmed, and despatched the son to a friend who resided about ten miles from his plantation, for assistance; the negroes, in the meantime, suspecting something, stole off, and were followed by Mr. Byrnes, who, observed that they had bundles with them, attempted to prevent their leaving. This they resisted, and their master, in the melee, was severely handled, being left senseless on the sward. The slaves, in the meantime, distributed tracks for the Ohio River, where they crossed about ten miles below this city, and are supposed by this time to be out of the influence of the Fugitive Slave Law. Mr. Byrnes, Jr., arrived here yesterday morning, but came to the conclusion that he was too late to effect any good .- Cincinnati Enquirer.

> > Slave Stampedes on the Southern Borderlands

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