

while the white officers and black soldiers looked on with delight. When the first exuberant burst of feelings were over, one of the white officers walked to where the eight black men were and said, 'Boys, you are free now and every black person in the United States. You can remain here in Kentucky, or go with the army. We expect to break up camp in a few days.' After this speech the whole army, with the eight black men, gave three rousing cheers. From what I could learn, it was heard several miles away. The eight black men thought it would be their best policy to go with the army, as they were on their way to Richmond and would be more safe than in Kentucky for awhile. In a few days the army received orders to proceed, and they did so with the eight black men with them, who were well pleased with the happy change that had fallen to their lot. These men were then willing to die to sustain that glorious freedom that God wished every righteous man on earth to have.

It was not only in the United States that my people made their escape to the mountains to find a home on account of the horrors of slavery. They did the same in St. Domingo during the time of the Revolution, which separated St. Domingo from France. Thousands of black people came down to the plains from the great mountains, where they had made their homes for two generations. When they descended to the plains to fight for their liberty, they would leave their families with their mothers. Many