with the power, in concert with the Constables of the County, on an appointed day, to dispose the Blacks of their Muskets & Fire arms, which it seems to be apprehended they have in abundance. And they were further requested to recommend to the Citizens, not enrolled in the Militia, to possess themselves of arms in what way they could, to be used in their defence when we necessary, and the peace to be kept ~~order~~ in the best possible order.

Judge Hopper, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Spencer and I have thought proper to send an express to you, to apprize you what is going on, and to advise similar measures of defence to be immediately taken in Lewis County. It can do no harm — It may keep the evil spirit in check, and save some valuable lives. To give greater effect to the preparation, and to prevent unnecessary alarm, the meeting agreed to divulge it to no persons, and to keep it secret even from their families. We recommend to you the like secrecy. — Old Doct. Goldthwaite, Capt. Thomas Coughlin are written to as well as yourself. You will be the perhaps lose no time in seeing them.

I am, D.Sir, very respectfully, yours &c.

O. V. Carter

I hope to be at home a Saturday.

I have not time to write to Capt. Wright. Please show him this letter.

O.V.C.