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Entry Nr. 190 Buenaventura (Ventura) Congo

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Catalog number: **190**
Name(s) of African providing account: **Buenaventura (Ventura) Congo**
Date account recorded: 1827
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Comments: None

Text of Account:

English translation –

“Statement of Buenaventura (Ventura) Congo, over twenty-five years old, married.
 ... After having finished his chores, the witness went to his hut. He was with his wife eating maize porridge when he heard the mayoral lashing the cook, the boy Pomuceno, and vowing to give him a bocabajo later. The tumult and clamor of all his fellow slaves, young and old alike, began shortly thereafter. He went out to see what was going on, and they told him that Pomuceno had thrown himself into the well. There followed a great deal of ruckus and frustrated attempts to get him out. The witness spoke up and said that the only person who should go down below and get him out was the mayoral himself and that no one should inform the authorities. This was when the slave Dionisio went to ring the alarm bell, and the witness grabbed the rope from him, asking him what he thought he was doing, ringing the bell when there was no fire. The mayhem continued, and the people advanced upon the mayoral. He drew his machete and retreated, fleeing toward the master’s big house, and locking himself in a room there.... They did not intend to kill him. They only wanted to scare him, which is why he fled and shut himself in. The mayoral’s only shortcoming was that he punished the slaves too much...”

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