Continental North America's greatest earthquake sequence struck on the western frontier of the United States.

The frontier was not then California but the valley of the Mississippi River, and the sequence was the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-1812.

Their described impacts on the land and river were so dramatic as to produce widespread modern disbelief.

However, geological, geophysical, and historical research has verified much in the historic accounts.

...it is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma.--Winston Churchill.

8 February 1812
"If we do not get away from here the ground is going to eat us alive. We had another one of them earthquake yesterday and today the ground still shakes at times. We are all about to go crazy - from pain and fright. We can not do anything until we can find our animals or get some more. We have not found enough to pull the wagons."

George Heinrich Crist