James Fletcher
Mississippi River

Pirrsburgh Gazerte
Feb. 14, 1812

## Nashville, (Ten.) January 21 Earthquake

From Mr. James Fletcher, in whose statement we place the utmost reliance we have recieved the following narrative:...At the Little Prairie, (a beautiful spot on the west side of the Mississippi river about 30 miles from New Nadrid), on the 16 th of December last, about $20^{\prime}$ clock, A.M., we felt a severe concussion of the earth, which we supposed to be eccasioned by a distant earthquake, and did not apprehend much damage. Between that time and day we felt several other slighter shocks; about sunrise another very severe one came on, attended with a perpendicular bouncing that caused the earth to open in many places.-.sone eight and ten feet wide, numbers of less width, and of considerable length... some parts have sunk much lower than others, where one of these large openings are, one side remains as high as before the shock and the other is sunk; some more, sone less; but the deepest I saw was about twelve feet. The earth was, in the course of fifteen minutes after the shock in the morning, entirely inundated with water. The pressing of the earth, if the expression be allowable, caused the water to spout out of the pores of the earth, to the height of eight or ten feet! we supposed the whole country sinking, and knew not what to do for the best. The agitation of the earth was so great that it was with difficulty any could stand on their Eeet, sone could not--The air was very strongly impregnated with a sulphurous smell. As if by instinct, we flew as soon as we could from the river, dreading most danger there...but after rambling about two or three hours, about two hundred gathered at Capt. Francis Lescuer's, where we encamped, until we heard that the upper country was not damaged, when I left the camp (after staying there twelve days) to $100 k$ for sone other place, and was three days getting about thirty miles, from being obliged to travel around those chases.

Previous to ny leaving the country I heard that many parts of the Mississtppi river had caved in; in some places several acres at the same instant. But the most exiraordinary effect that i sax was a saall lake below the river St. Francis. The botton of which is blown up higher than any ot the acjoining country, and instead of water it is filled xith a beautiful shite sand. The same effect is produced in many other lakes, or I am informed by those who saw them;
and it is (supposed they are generally filled up. A little river called Pemsece, that empties into the St. Francis, and runs parallel with the Mississippi, at the distance of about twelve miles from it, is filled also with sand. I only saw it near its bend, and found it to be so, and was informed by respectable gentlemen who had seen it lower down, that it was positively filled with sand. On the sand that was thrown out of the lakes and river lie numerous quantities of fish of all kinds common to the country.

The damage to stock, foc was unknown. I heard of only two dwelling houses, a granary, and 5 moke house, being sunk, Өrre of the twelifing heusas was stink twelve feet below the surface of the earth; the other the top wasalevien with the surface. The granary and smoke house were entirely out of sight; we supposed sunk and the earth closed over them. The buildings through the country are nuch damaged. We heard of no lives being lost, except seven Indians, who were shaken into the Mississippi.... This we learned from one who escaped.

Previous to the shocks coming on, we heard a rumbling noise like that of thunder. They continued until I left the country... some very sincert...-I cannot tell how many there were.

The above accoum 15 confirmed by letters from the country. A gentleman attempting to pass from Cape Girardeau to the pass of $5 t$. Francis, found the earth so much cracked and broke, that it was impossible to get along. The course must be about 50 miles back of the litrle Prairie. Others have experienced the same difficulty in getting along, and at times had to go miles out of their way to shun those chasms.

We have no idea that the principal cause of the shocks originated on the Mississippi---we have not yet heard the worse."


## THE WESTERN SUN,

 IS printed wectla do Tyis Do annium, paid in odocice or cni attested Notr, Aquabse at the effal the yciar No Subseription will-bo receiped for a * Jets term: titon gheqyear-2 ond- tuill sot be discontinged-until all arrebrages are paid.
TVhidRE papers are sent by Poft, the personssubseribing tpust pay the postage. Apverviseleangts of no mores fogth than breadth will beipiperted three times. fur One Dolital, odd f Twistr-Five Cents, for coery offer interition.
[To avoid unplaasant dizputes: it. is-ryguested of Advertising : custonarr, that theg particulatly spiciify the number of times their Alpertisement's. are' to be continurd.-Thäse sent wïphout such directions will be comminued until forbid and must be paidi for according's.
'4xL Letters addressed' to thy Editor must be Post paid, or they will nut be "alet oft of the afticse"?

Eutract of a letter from His Excellepey Whilliens H.' Harrisen to the Secfetary ot War, dated.

## vircernks, Dec. 10.'1811.

"In my official accoutic of the late ac. tion 1 did not murention that Captón Pref cott and his compzany was in the laf charge that wat made ons the left fank. I had pliced him on thar flank early in the ac trön, and fecelleaing shat I had rrturned him to his original politien, I had foppofed it to have been before the chayge ; but. 1 now Gid that it was afterwards. Eheut $\dot{A}$. Hawkins with the ferm men of the Rilie Company that remained blfo affifted in the clarge on the tig't Alank. The lase JNelibes company of the stit Regg, under the com mand bf Larnt. Gooding had breal previ oofly to the athion youited with Capt, Bur ton't, which wes the reafon of their not beiof particulariy meitaioried in my leteriMr. Gpoding beliaved with greas gftams:ry, and was wounded in the neck. It alf omited to mention foom the hant with which my letter wess, wfitten, my qbigas. tion to Captain Dubois of the Spies and guidgt, This gentientan irebdered ins the
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The damage to fock was unknown.-I heard of only two dwelling houfes, agran-
watruif dirconifted fareyer \% The great Metrolitand coupty of I reland bad iss meeting yeflerḍyy, wid certoinly a more gratifying obe or hatat chkering ppeatacle we nev, er wituelled. Uquarde. pf 20,000 Proteft. ants and Catholic Irimmen alfembled, for a great nationhl-object, formed coup deil issififibly impreifive and, affeding-never was unapumity inore complete ; never. was dicorum mordfrietly obleived -pever did © public body exhibit more firm, more con. flitutional condocts

Thet fpeeches of the different gentlemea that addreffed the meeting were excelient, Both the members for the county of Dublin delivered their Tentiments in very Gandfome flyle. Col: Q'Chei, an officer of high rank in the Auftrian fervice, and who fought in the memorible battles of Afpurn and Wagranf, fpoke with the pappiett effect." Sir N. $\mathrm{O}^{\circ}$ Donnell and Mr. Burnes wete alfo very eloquent and animated.Counfellor Fihlay; on this otcafion, exseededill his former powers of eloquence, io advocting the rights of his Citholtit countrymen; this learned and enlighted lawyer will, we truft experience she gratitude and markged fupports of the Catholic body in 'his profefliouat careef-tio man. lias been nioie able, möre zealous, or more difingercheds ip théif behali; few pelhaps, hakesigeo. up brighter profpects of ptefermodet than be has cionz, by attaching bimp
of catholics and of I cland
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## Nat. Intel.

"I mon intrude a little on your pa tience by informing yau, chit I was lately in Canada, and cantaflure, yoio, fir, 1hadito bite gny topgue iof filep:indignation, ${ }^{2}$ hear the cofficentroufe and compon bitr room converfation of the royalifhs. They affert roundly that the Prince of Wales. has made an opeb declaration that wheo herefende the throns he wil! fpeedily retrieve hisfith. er's loffes-thas it miny eafily, be effeted

## Masnvit, L*, Januity 2' 18 k 。 EARTHQUAKE.

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