

Zanesville, OH

Muskingum Messenger
April 04, 1812
pg. 3, col. 4

Russelville, (Ky.) Feb. 26.

Arrived at this place on Friday morning last, Mr. John Verner and crew, from New Madrid, from which we learn that they were at shore about five miles below that place on Friday morning, the 7th instant at the time of the hardest shock, and the water filled their barge and sunk it with the whole of its contents, losing everything but the clothes they had on. They offered at New Madrid half of their loading for a boat to save it, but no price was sufficient for the hire use of a boat a few hours, but could not get it. The town of New Madrid has sunk twelve feet below its former standing, but is not covered with water: the houses are all thrown down, and the inhabitants moved off, except the French who live in camps close to the river side and have their boats tied near them in order to sail off in case the earth should sink. It is said that a fall equal to that of the Ohio is near above New Madrid, and that several whirls are in the Mississippi river, some being so strong as to sink every boat that comes within its suck; one boat was sunk with a family in it. The country from New Madrid to the Grand Prairie is very much torn to pieces, and the Little Prairie almost entirely delinged. It was reported when our informants left the country, that some Indians who were in search of other Indians who were lost, had returned and stated that they had discovered a volcano at the head of the Arkansas, by the light of which they travelled three days and nights. A vast number of swayers have risen in the Mississippi river.

No pencil can paint the distress of the many movers!

Wes. Courier

Feb
volcano
@ head
of
Arkansas