

Jan. 23, 1812

Otsage Herald
February 22, 1812
Saturday

(Dec)

copied as read

Natchez, Jan. 7

Arrived here on Monday last the Steamboat from Pittsburgh, which had an account of low water been some time detained at the falls of Ohio; and is destined to run between this place and N. Orleans a regular trader. She was only 22 hours underway from Pittsburgh to this place, a distance of nearly two thousand miles.

No very satisfactory account of the shock of Earthquakes, and their effects, which had lately happened could be expected; that received from a gentlemen on board, is more so than we anticipated.

The shake, or jar, produced by the powerful operation of the engine rendered the shocks imperceptible, while the boat was under way. While at anchor, five or six shocks were felt, 2 or 3 more severe than the rest. On enquiry at New-Madrid, a small town about 70 miles below the mouth of the Ohio, they found the chimneys of almost all the houses were thrown down, and the inhabitants considerably alarmed. At the little Praire 30 miles lower down, they were brought to by the cries of some of the people, who thought the earth was gradually sinking; but declined to take refuge on board without their friends, who they wished to collect. Some distant below the little Praire, the bank of the river was caved away to a considerable extent, and two islands had almost disappeared.

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chimneys
down

We also understand that letters have been received from Louisville, Falls of Ohio, which state, that the houses have suffered considerable damage at that place.