

Liberty Hall
Feb. 12, 1812

ADDITIONAL EARTHQUAKES

On Tuesday the 4th inst. about 5 o'clock, P. M. a moderate shock of an earthquake was experienced by our citizens generally. Its duration was between one and two minutes. In the course of the following night, some slight tremors were perceptible, and on the next day, Wednesday the 5th, at least two shocks, of inconsiderable force, were observed by several persons. On Thursday the 6th, none seem to have been felt; but on the morning of the 7th, at 32 minutes past 3 o'clock, apparent time, a strong vibration occurred and was followed without intermission by two others; the whole occupying, according to the best observations that were made, about six minutes. They raised those sides of houses which face S. S. E. and W. S. W. One of them threw a plum, hung by a line 7 feet long, three inches to the N. W. from the point over which it ordinarily rested. This was not only the strongest vibration that occurred at that time, but by far the most powerful that has been experienced here. It however, did less damage than was expected, by those who witnessed it. It threw down part of the top of one chimney in town, and of two in the vicinity of the town. It also widened the cracks that previously existed in some brick houses; and is said to have injured the Court-house. As that building, however, was already cracked, over several of the arches, from the bad execution of the masonry it is altogether uncertain to what extent it was injured by this shock. These strong vibrations, are said by some, to have been preceded by a light and noise, but others who were awake and collected in mind and senses, observed neither. About 8 o'clock the same morning, another (but short and feeble) shock was perceived. During the remainder of the day, several gentle tremors were noticed. At 14 minutes past 8 o'clock in the evening a moderate vibration occurred continuing nearly a minute.