

The Palladium
Feb. 26, 1812

The inhabitants of Lancaster, Ohio were so affrightened, and astonished, as to fly from their dwellings to the streets for safety.

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pg. 58

Lancaster, (Ohio) February 13, 1812

On Friday morning last, at 30 minutes past three o'clock, the citizens of this place were roused from their slumbers by another violent undulation of the earth. The concussion was terrible, and caused the astonished and affrighted inhabitants to fly from their habitations to the streets for safety. The shocks hitherto felt, when compared with this, were slight and feeble. The scene was awfully terrific. The pale faced moon emitting her feeble rays through a hazy atmosphere contributed to heighten rather than to dispel the gloom. The ringing of the bells occasioned by the violent agitation of the earth; the howling of the dogs; the bellowing of cattle, and the running to and fro of horses, which evinced that even the brute creation were not insensible to this terrific convulsion of nature, and to their danger; the earth now apparently reeling to its centre, and now oscillating with the velocity of lightning to every point of the compass, served to produce sensations indescribable, and seemed to threaten those dire calamities, which in some countries are consequent on severe earthquakes. But providentially (and with gratitude to Heaven we write it) after five or six minutes dreadful agitation, the conflict of the elements ceased, and we were measurably relieved from apprehensions, easier to be conceived than described.

At twenty minutes past eight in the evening there was a considerable shake. It was followed at thirty-five minutes past ten by another more severe than the second, but far less terrible than the first.