

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Natchitoches, dated December 19th, 1811

On the 16th instant, about 2 o'clock A.M. we experienced a considerable shock of the earth, which excited great alarm, and was the cause of so many ludicrous circumstances. We had two other shocks less severe, one about sunrise the same morning, and the other about noon the next day; the first shock agitated [the river?] exceedingly, it vibrated from one side to the other near four feet in height, on each bank above its common level. We have not heard its extent, but suspect it was very partial, as it was not felt thirty miles above or below this post.