

Norfolk, VA

V(08:15)
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Dec. 16, 1811

Kentucky Reporter
Jan. 11, 1812

FROM NORFOLK

This morning two distinct shocks of an earthquake were felt in this place; the first, (and according to most accounts) the most violent, was about 3 o'clock. It was so severe as to awaken a number of persons out of their sleep. The shock at two very short intervals might have continued about a minute. The shaking of the beds is described, as if a strong man had taken hold of the posts, and shook them with all the violence in his power. Several clocks were stopped. - The houses were shaken with great violence. Again about 8 o'clock another shock was felt, by a greater number of persons, as many had risen; this also very violent. The most sensible effect produced by this, that we have yet learned, was that of throwing a pipe of wine off the skids, in a ware house on Commerce Street. Before our next, we expect to obtain some further particulars respecting this (in our ?) unusual convulsion of nature.

Poulson's American Daily Advertiser
Dec. 23, 1811

Norfolk, December 16

EARTHQUAKE

Two very sensible shocks were felt in this town, and as we learn in Portsmouth, at 3 o'clock this morning and at 8 - we have not time to give particulars. The clocks were all stopt, and doors and things suspended from the ceilings of the shops and stores, oscillated violently though a dead calm prevailed - its course was from West to East.