



Lucien Young Presentation Sword, 1880

Lucien Young, of Lexington, Kentucky, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1873. Assigned to the USS *Alaska*, Young received a commendation for rescuing a shipmate who fell



overboard. Young also was aboard the USS *Huron* when it ran aground in 1877. He risked his life going ashore to secure a line. For his actions, he received a gold medal from the United States Congress and a presentation sword from the Kentucky state legislature. Young commanded a yacht during the Spanish-American War. Court-martialed and acquitted in the USS *Bennington* explosion of 1905, Young ultimately attained the rank of rear admiral.

Courtesy of The Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY

War is not just a compilation of dates that represent a series of battles. "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)," an online exhibition that illustrates the personal stories of bravery, innovation, heartache and perseverance, provides evidence of the people and artifacts history books often neglect. To learn more about this item and others in the military collections of the Kentucky Historical Society, visit "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)."