



Battle of the Thames Drum, ca. 1812



Colonel Richard Mentor Johnson's Regiment of Kentucky volunteers took this drum from the British Forty-first Regiment of Foot at the battle of the Thames in 1813. William Henry Harrison, overall commander of American forces on the Thames campaign, later had the drum repainted with the inscription "Drum taken at the Battle of Thames and presented to the 42nd Regt Ky Militia having turned out more volunteers during the late war than any other Ky regiment." The 42nd Regiment was raised in Fayette County.

Kentucky Historical Society Collections, 1909.22

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](#)."