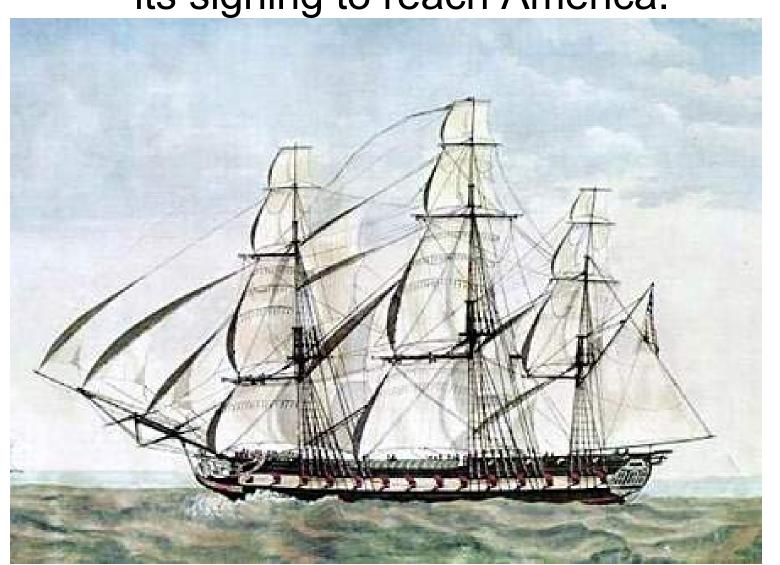
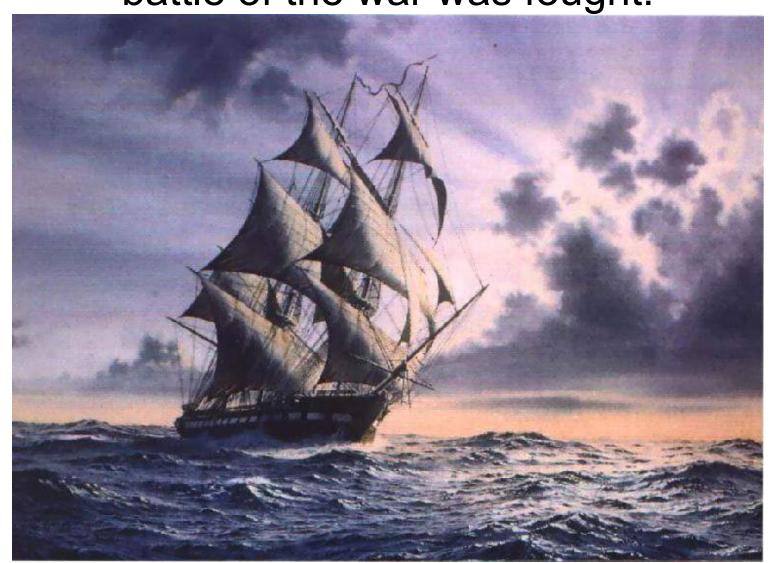
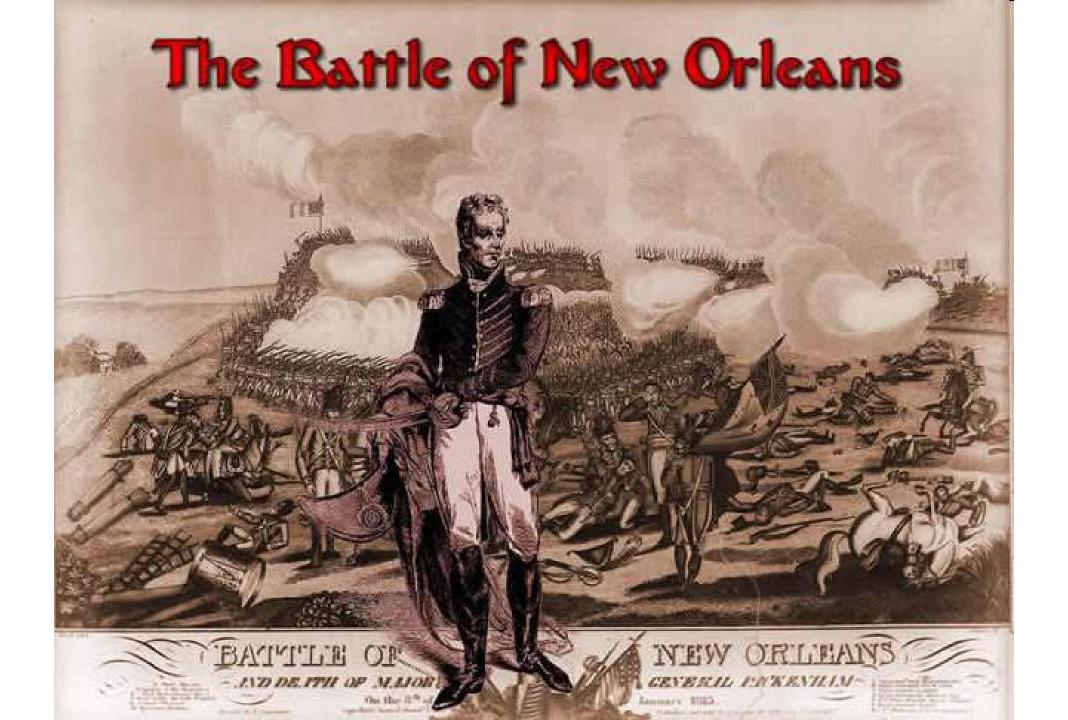
The Treaty of Ghent was signed in Belgium on December 24, 1814, and it took weeks for word of its signing to reach America.



On January 8, 1815, before those in America knew that the war was over, the most famous battle of the war was fought:

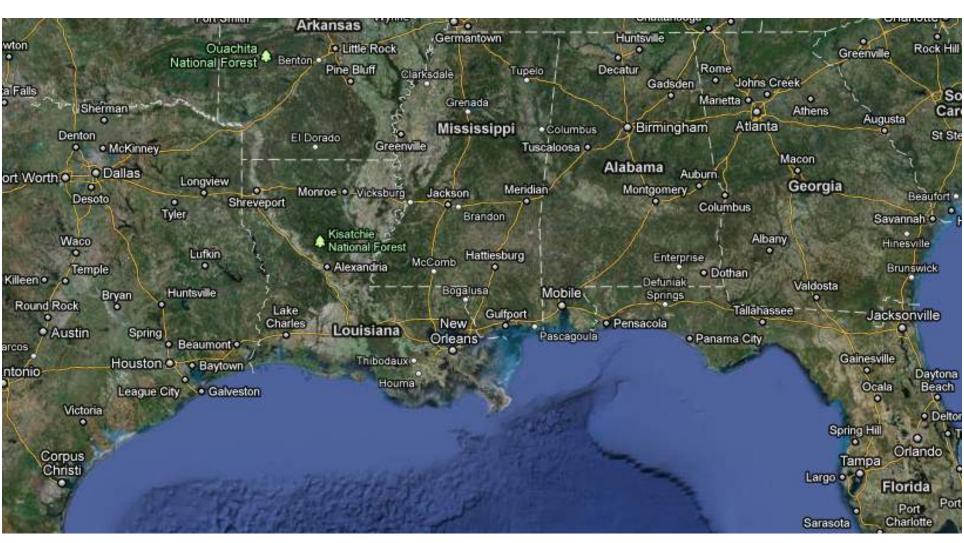




Andrew Jackson (from Tennessee) was the commander of United States' forces during the Battle of New Orleans.



# The British wanted to capture this very important port on the Mississippi River and near the Gulf of Mexico.



The British were led by Sir Edwin Packenham.



His soldiers who had defeated Napoleon in Europe, were considered to be the best soldiers in the world.



Andrew Jackson's army was a mixture of different soldiers. He had some frontiersmen...



## ...and he had some "regular army soldiers."



## But that wasn't enough. He needed more men.

- 1: Private, 5th US Infantry Regt., 1815
- 2: Private, US Light Dragoons, 1814
- 3: Master Workman, US Corps of Artificers, 1814



So he recruited pirates (Jean LaFitte and his men), telling them if the U.S. won the battle, they would not be prosecuted for their crimes.



He also recruited slaves, telling them if the U.S. won the battle, they would be free.



Jackson positioned his men across the main road leading to New Orleans behind a big ditch.



He had his men pile dirt in front of their positions and also had them hide behind large cotton bales.



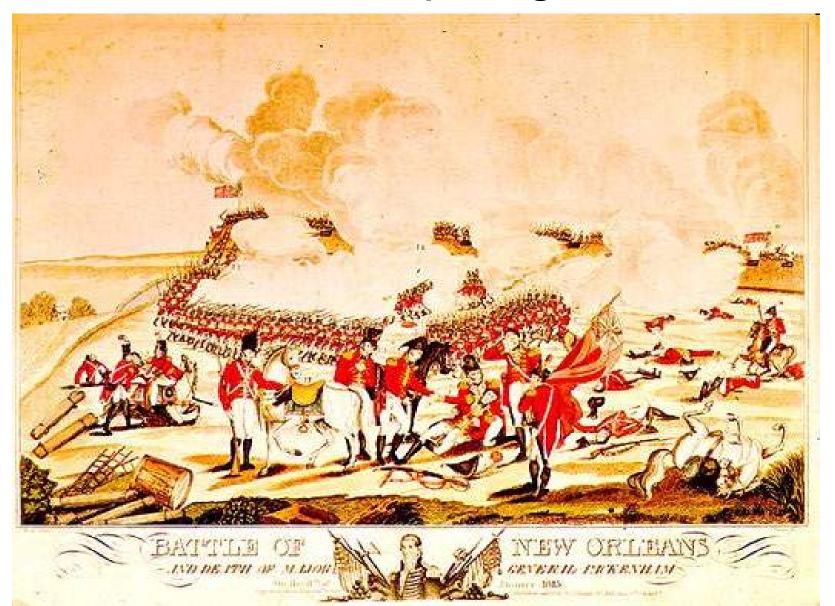
Jackson told his men not to fire until the British got very close. He wanted to make sure that his men would not miss.



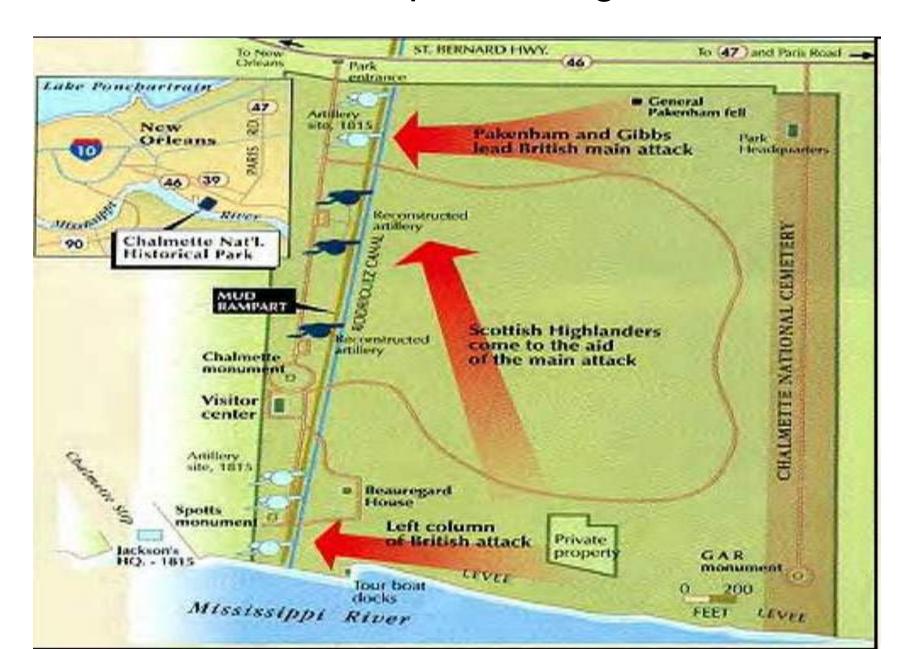
The British had to cross open ground, along the Mississippi River, but they were very confident going up against this "rag tag" American army.



## The British made charge after charge across the open ground.



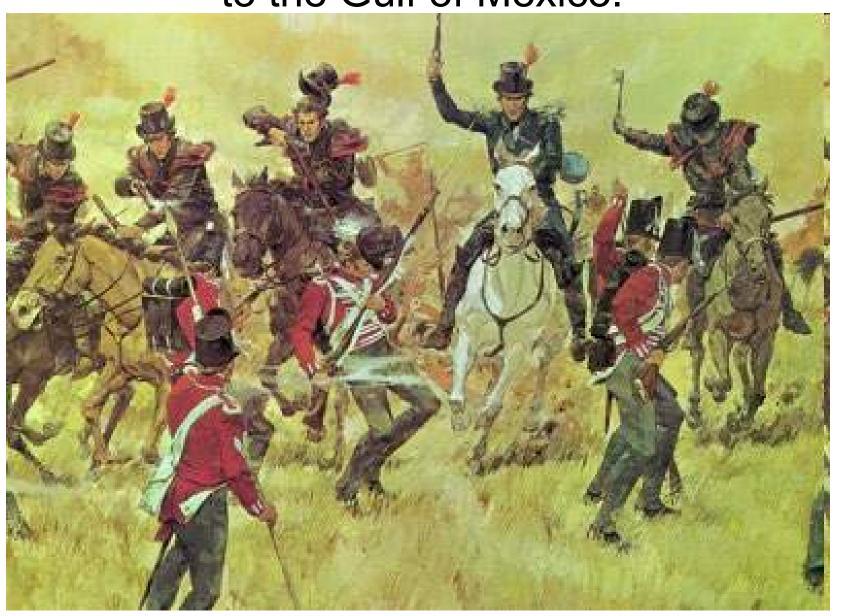
#### The Americans kept shooting them down.



The British commander, Packenham was killed...



... and what was left of the British retreated back to the Gulf of Mexico.



The British suffered 2042 casualties (killed, wounded, missing, captured).



This image is titled "Death of General Packenham at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815. This image is courtesy of travelphotobase.com.

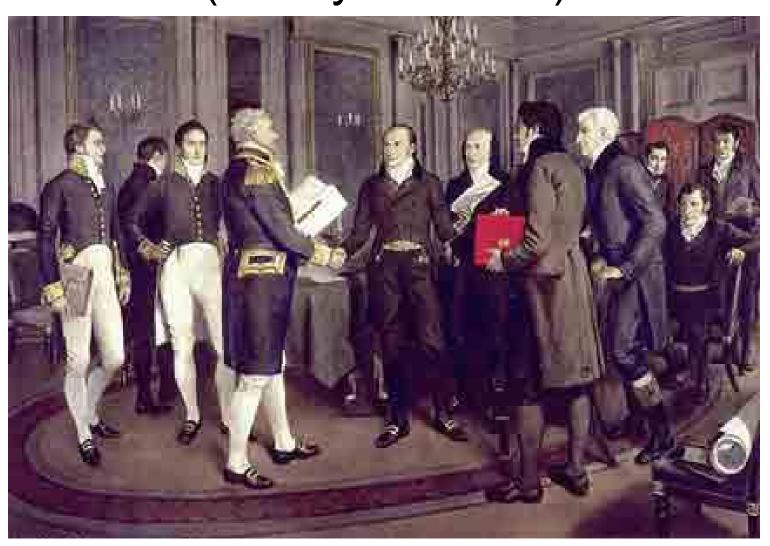
The Americans suffered 333 casualties (killed, wounded, missing, captured).



The Battle of New Orleans was a stunning American victory.



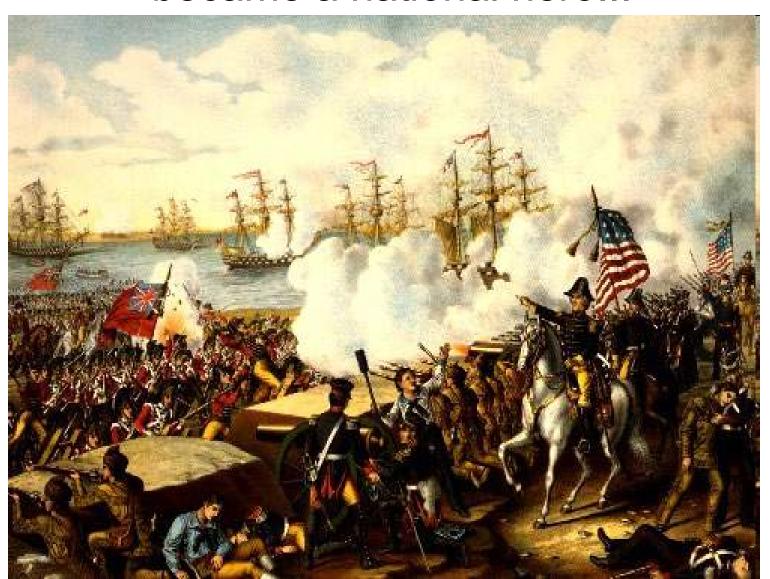
Word reached America the next month that the British had signed the peace treaty (Treaty of Ghent).



Many Americans assumed the British had given up because of their defeat at New Orleans.



Andrew Jackson (who was nicknamed "Old Hickory" because he was tough as a Hickory tree) became a national hero...



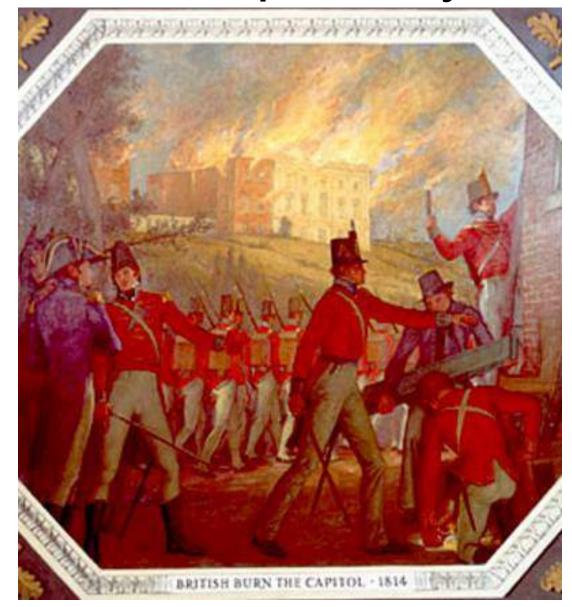
...and eventually he would be elected President of the United States because of his victory at New Orleans.



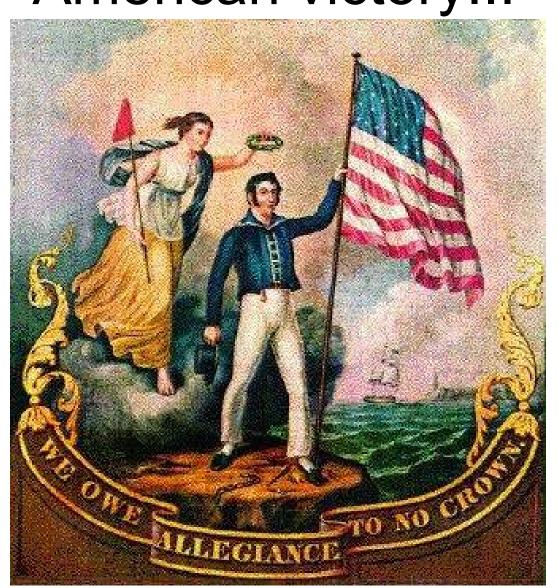
So the War of 1812, in which we were kicked out of Canada,



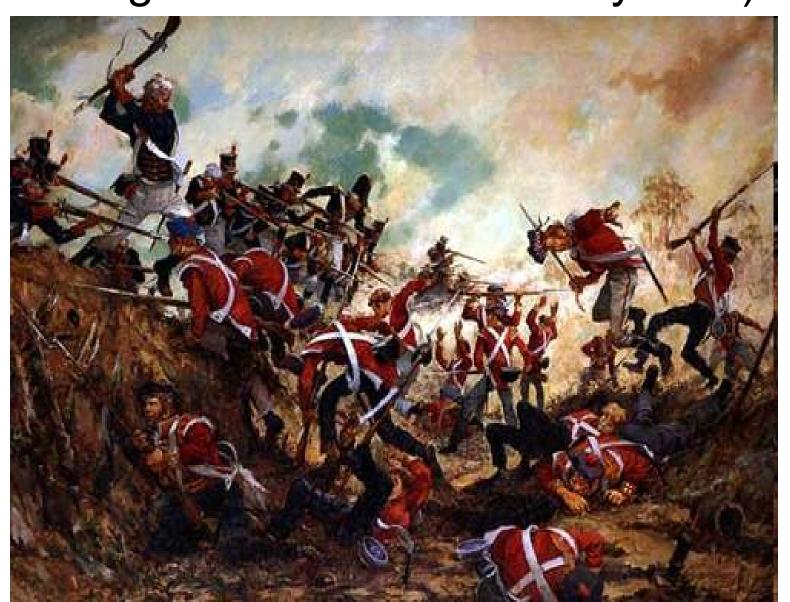
### ...and had our capital city burned...



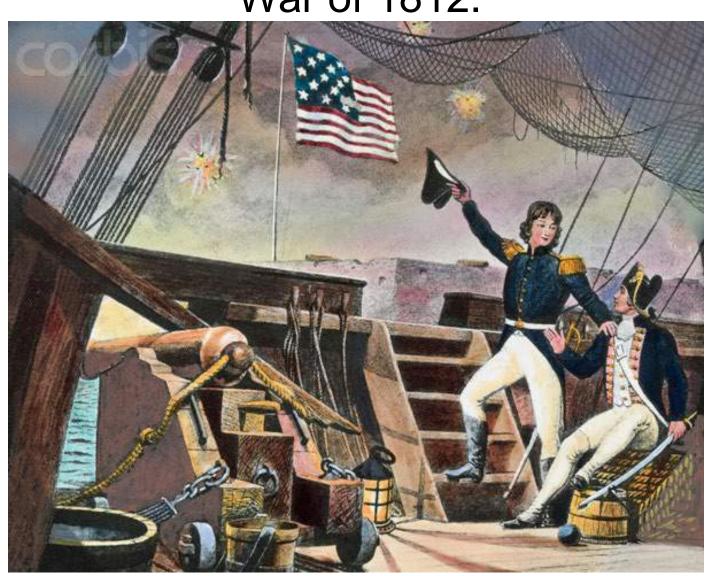
...is considered by us to be an American victory...



...because we won the last battle (even though the war was officially over).



Patriotism throughout the United States greatly increased in the years immediately following the War of 1812.

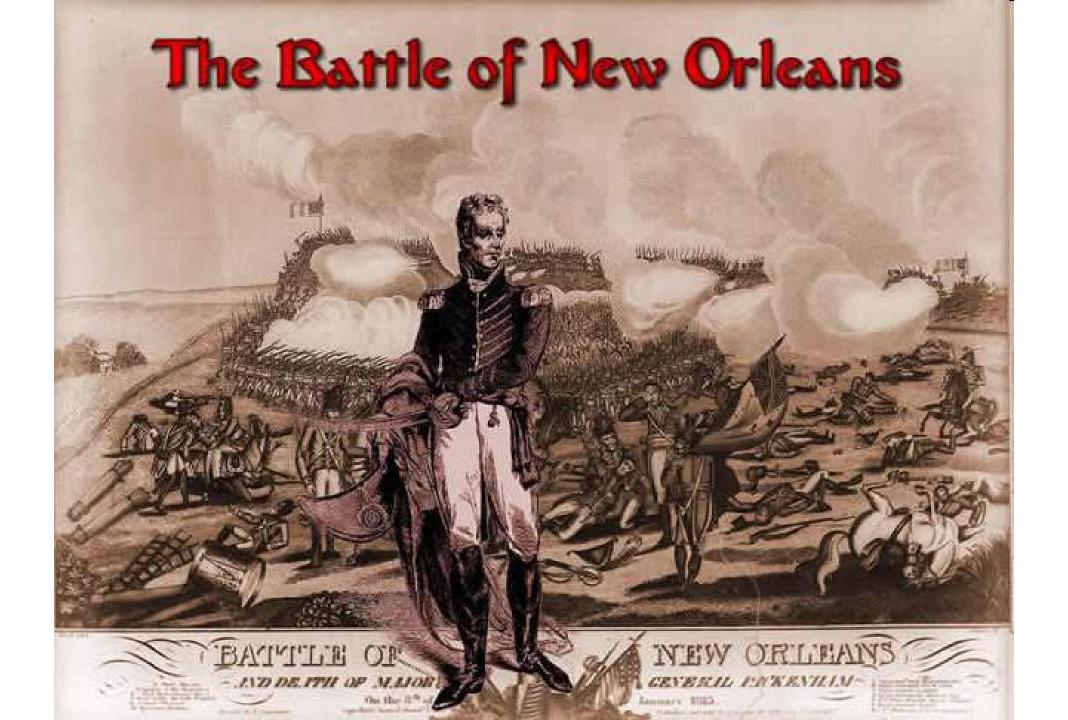


As we said earlier, we are going to sing a song about the Battle of New Orleans.



We will pass the lyrics out to you now.

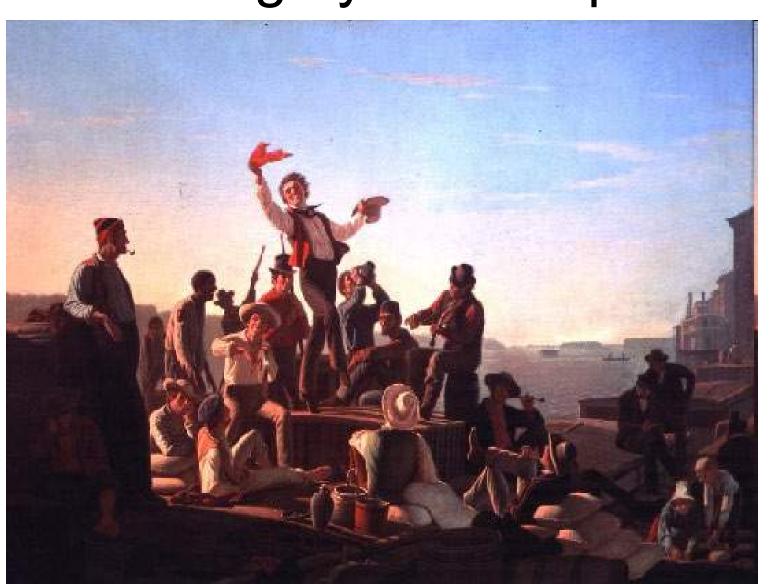




### In 1814 we took a little trip...



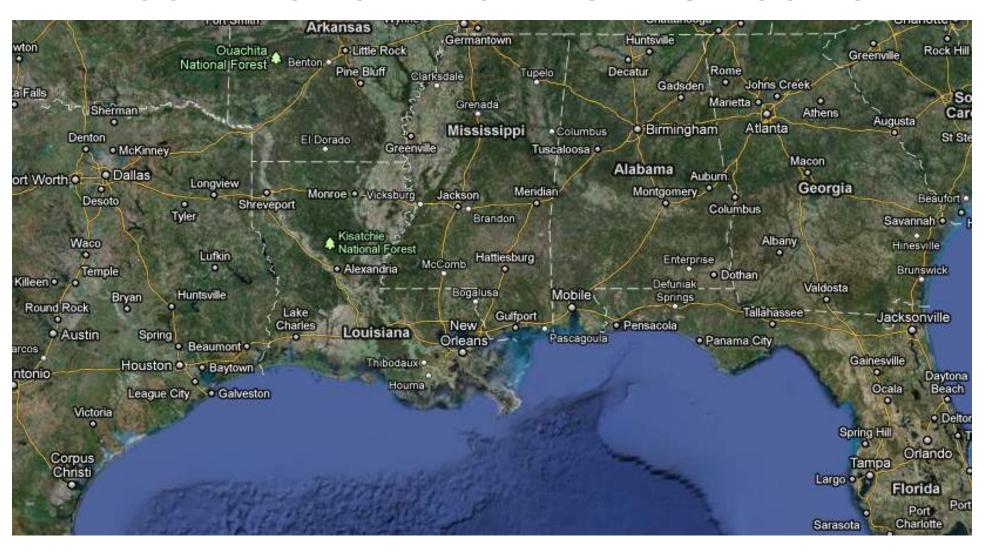
# Along with Colonel Jackson down the mighty Mississip...



# We took a little bacon, and we took a little beans...



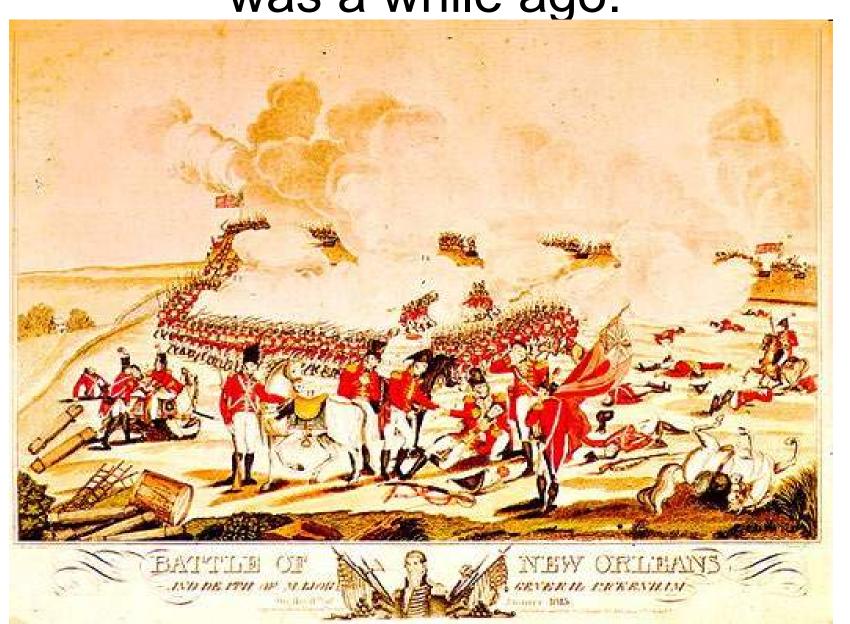
### ...and we caught the Bloody British near the town of New Orleans.



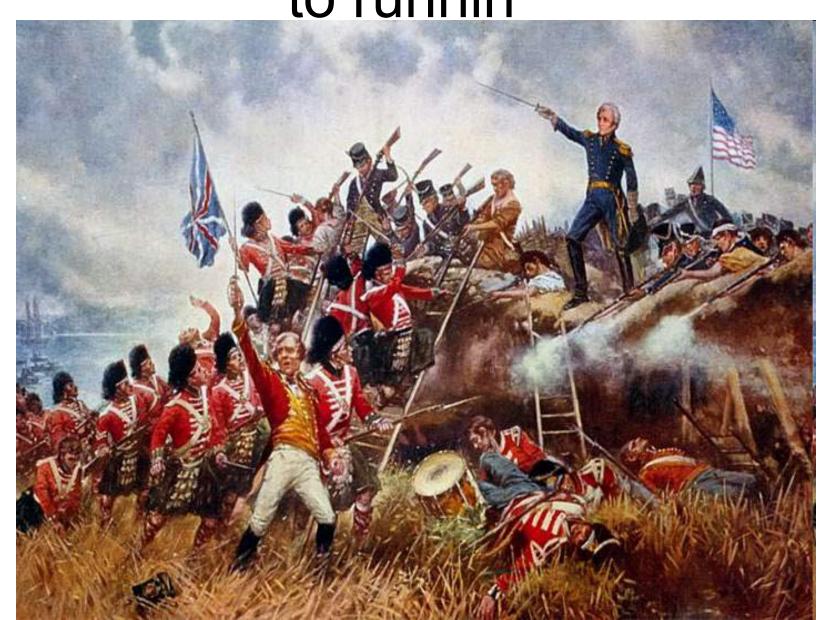
### We fired our guns and the British kept a'comin.



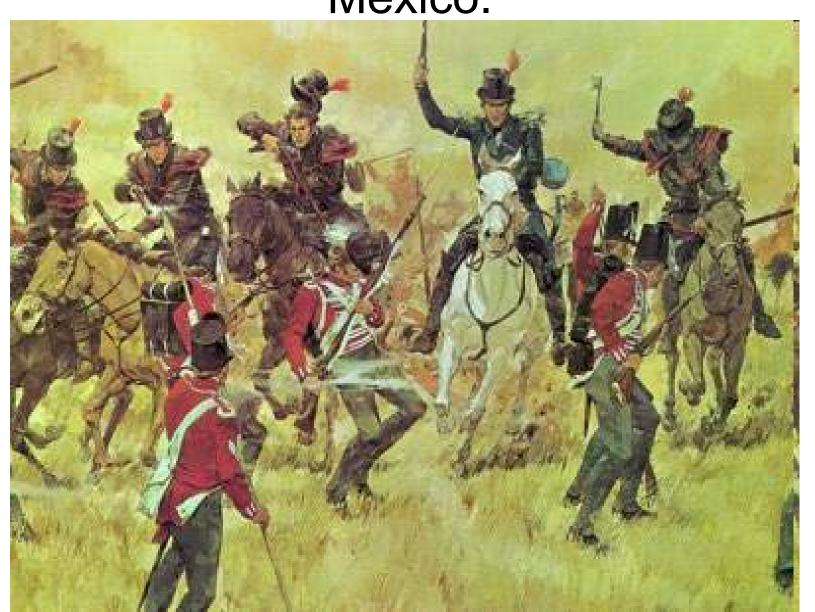
There wasn't nigh as many as there was a while ago.



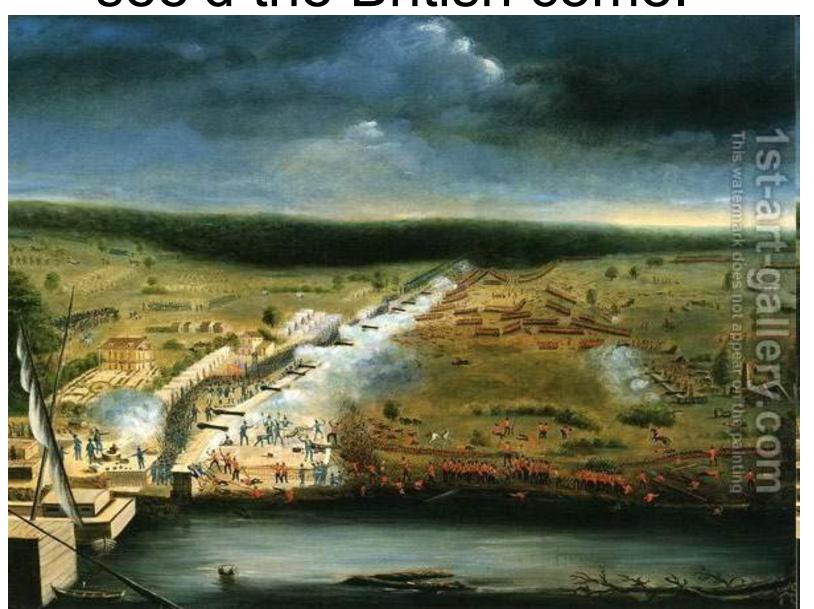
We fired once more and they began to runnin'



On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.



### We looked down the river and we see'd the British come.



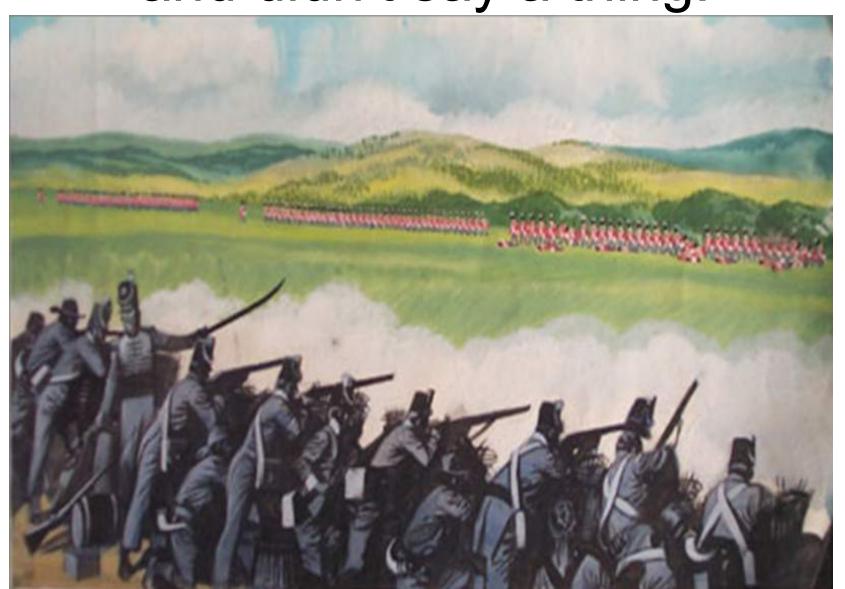
And there must of been a hundred of 'em beatin' on the drum.



They stepped so high and they made the bugles ring.



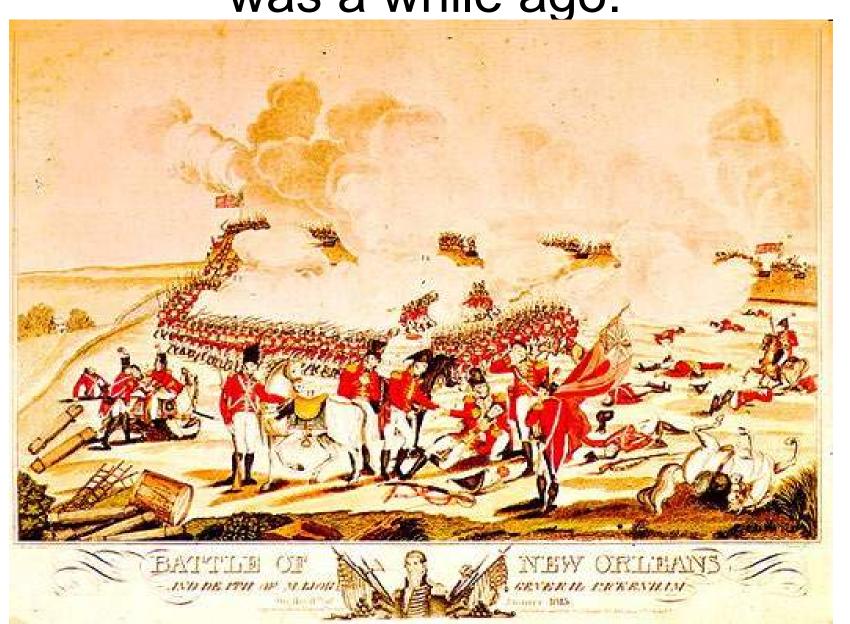
# We stoody beside our cotton bales and didn't say a thing.



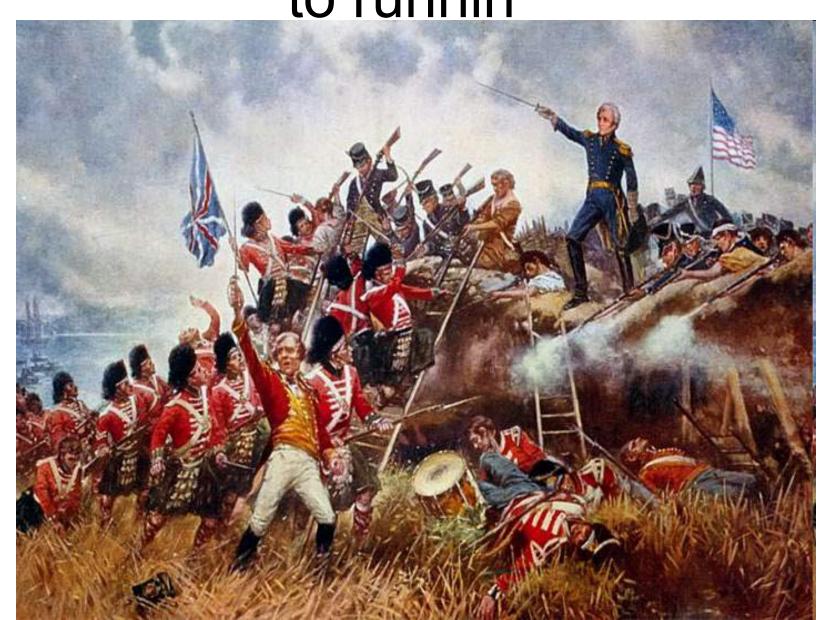
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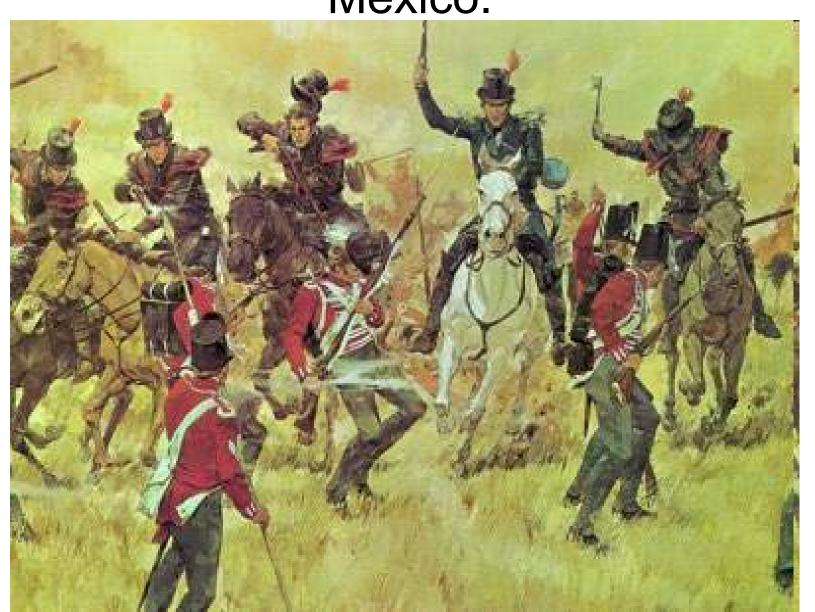
There wasn't nigh as many as there was a while ago.



We fired once more and they began to runnin'



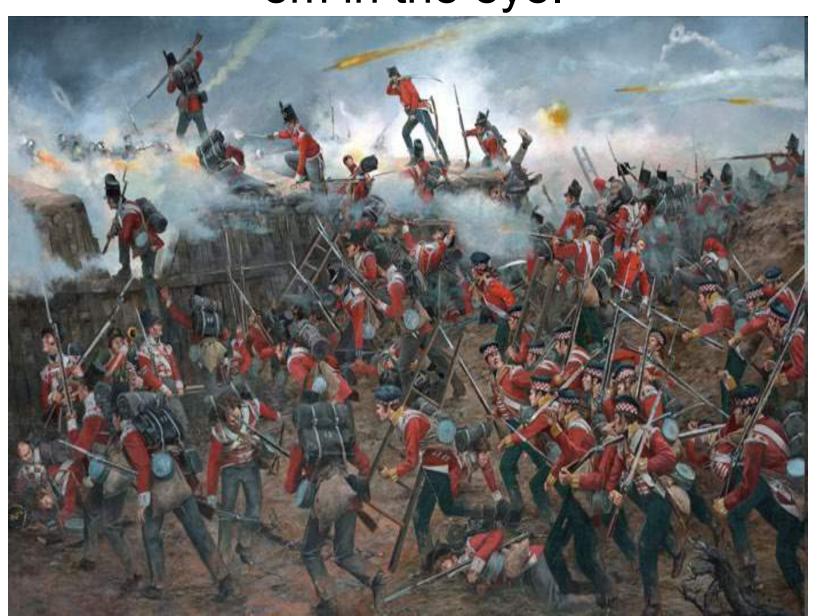
On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.



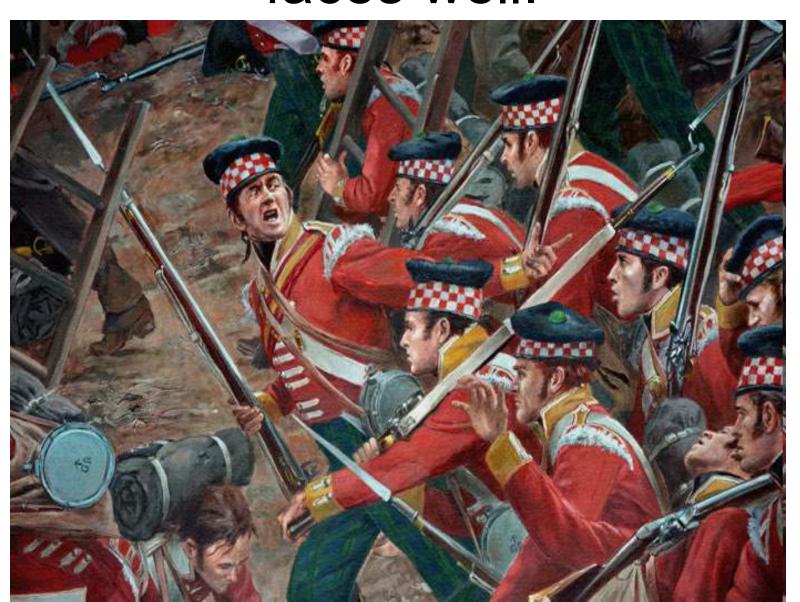
# Old Hickory said we could take 'em by surprise



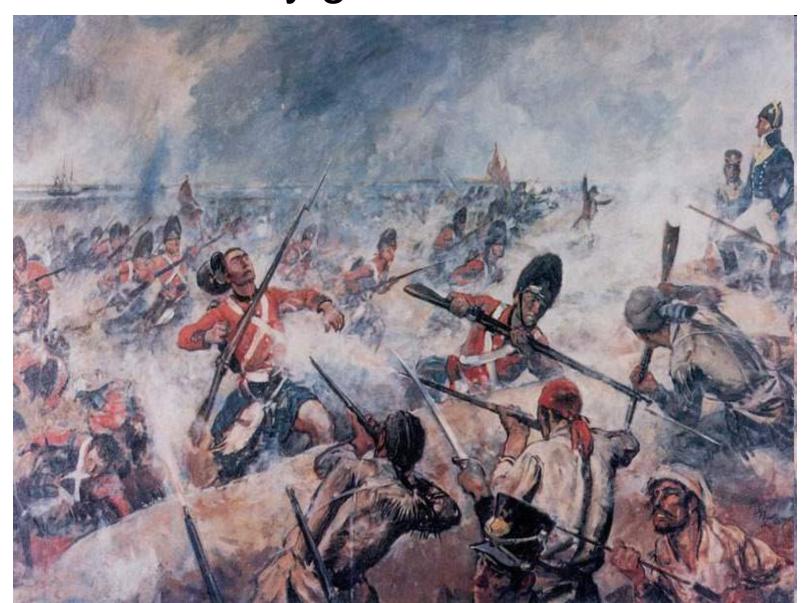
If we didn't fire our muskets 'til we looked 'em in the eye.



We held our fire 'til we see'd their faces well.



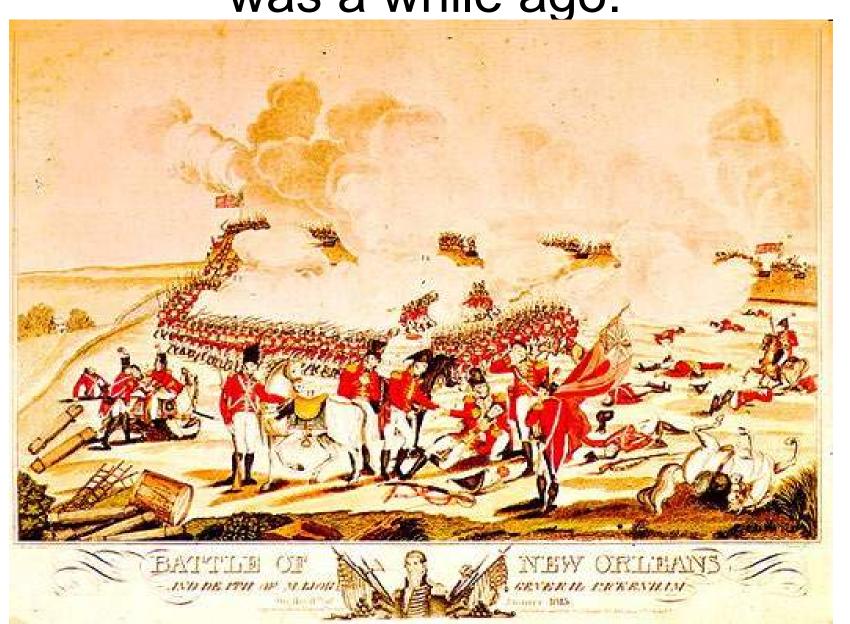
Then we opened up our squirrel guns and we really gave 'em... well...



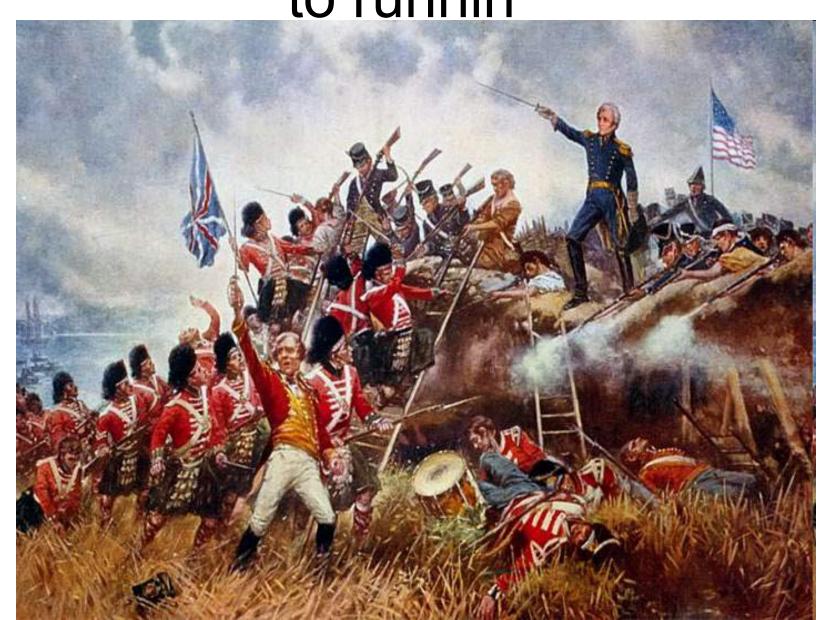
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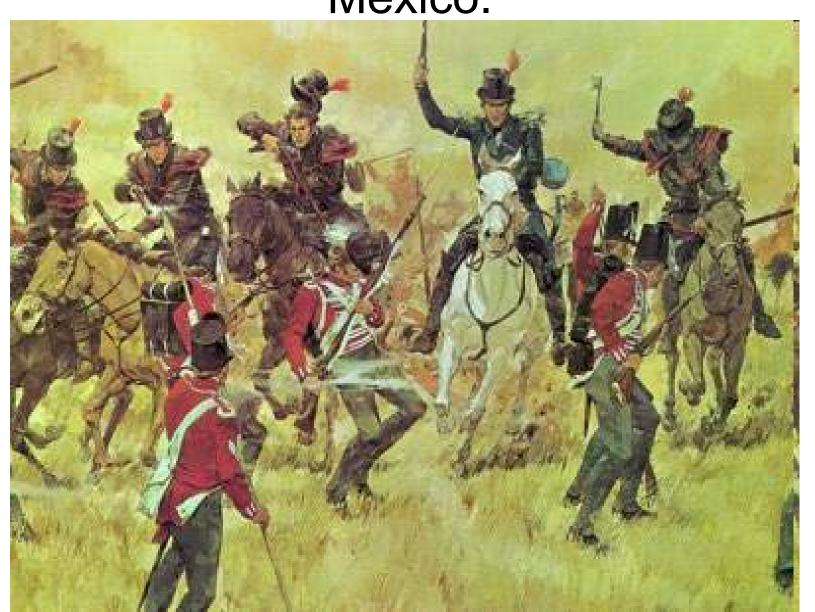
There wasn't nigh as many as there was a while ago.



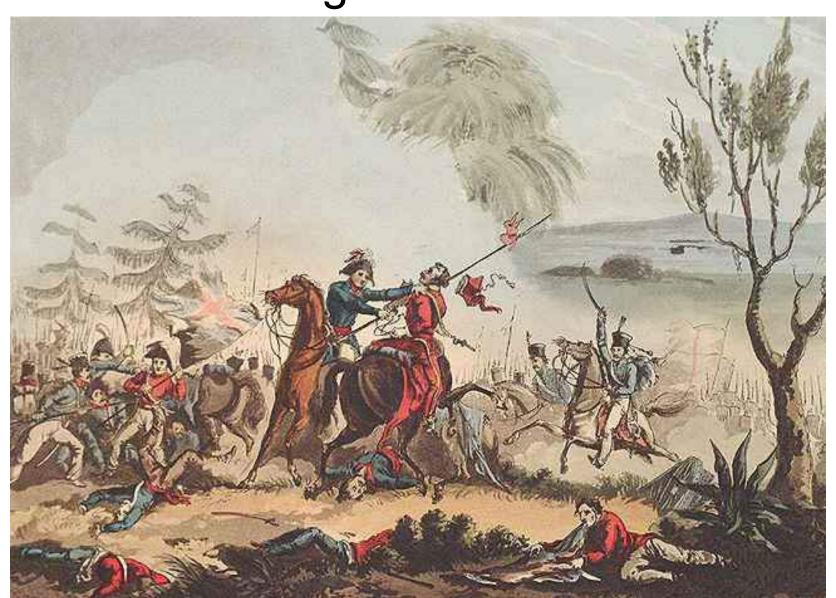
We fired once more and they began to runnin'



On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.



Yeah they ran through the briars and they ran through the brambles...



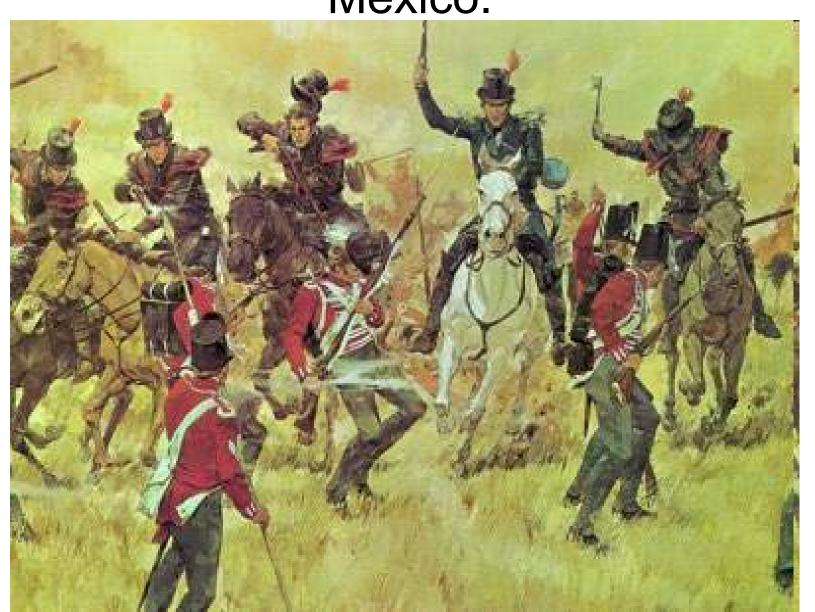
...and they ran through the bushes where a rabbit couldn't go...



#### They ran so fast that the hounds couldn't catch 'em...



On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.



We fired our cannon 'til the barrel melted down.



So we grabbed an alligator and we fought another round.



## We filled his head with cannon balls, and powdered his behind...



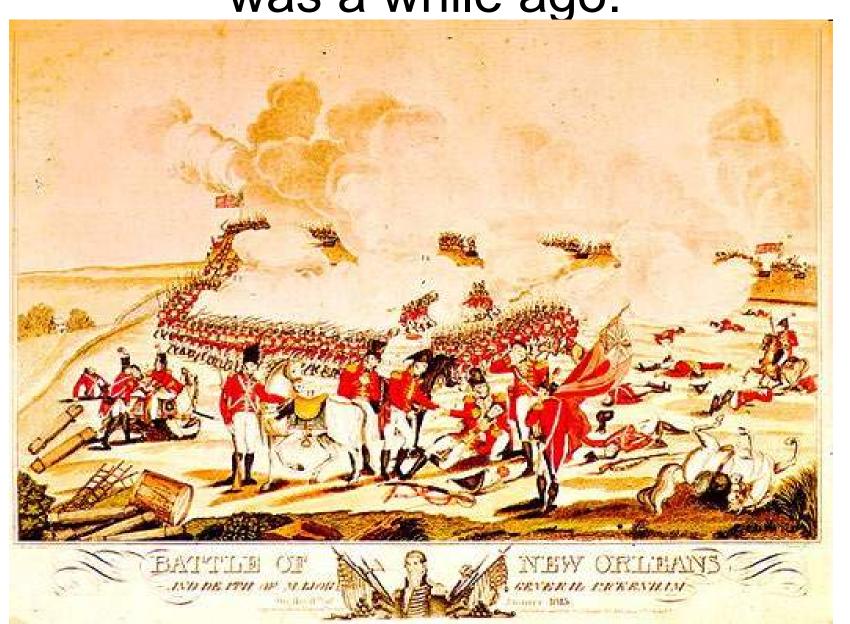
...and when we touched the powder off, the gator lost his mind.



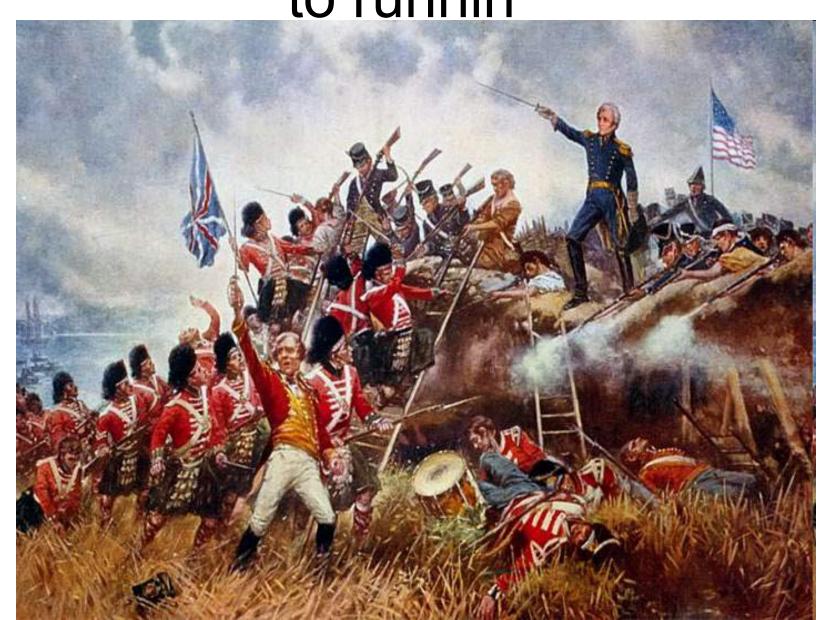
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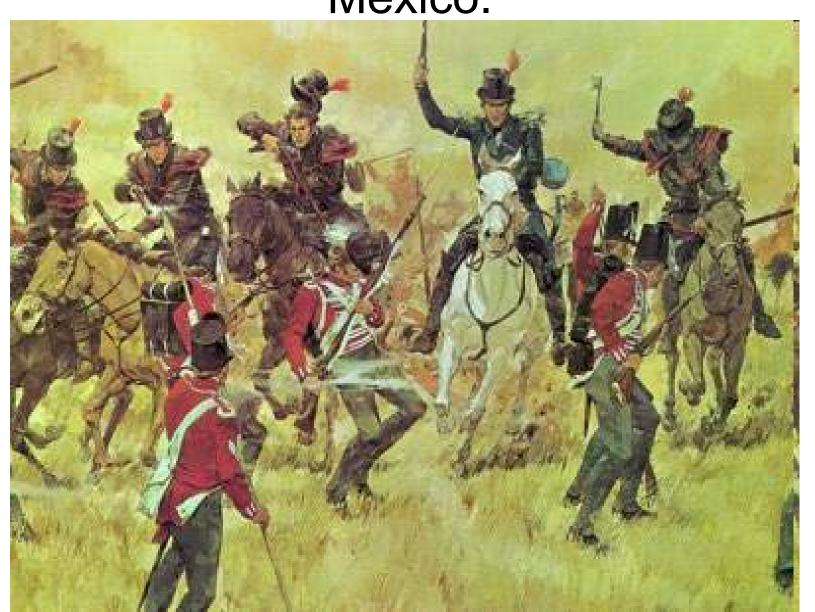
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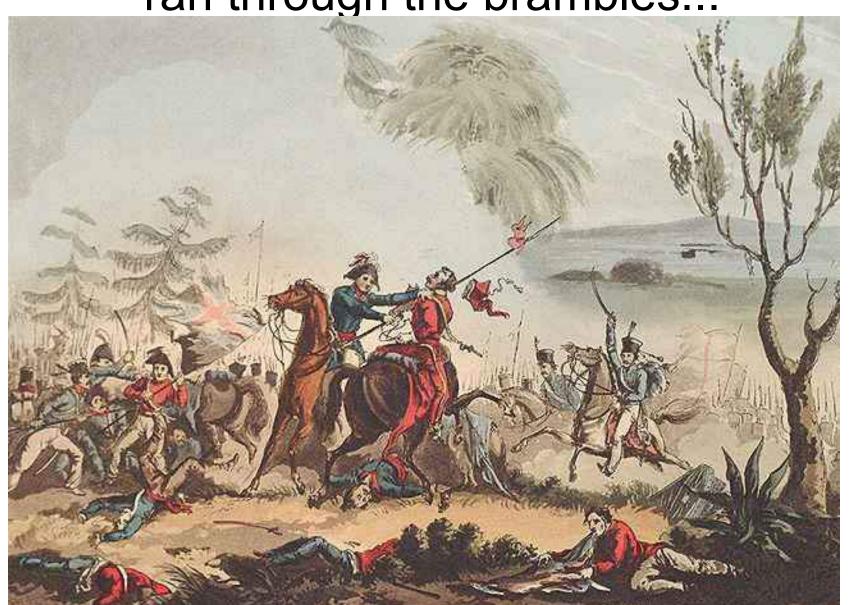
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On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.



Yeah they ran through the briars and they ran through the brambles...



...and they ran through the bushes where a rabbit couldn't go...



#### They ran so fast that the hounds couldn't catch 'em...



On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.

