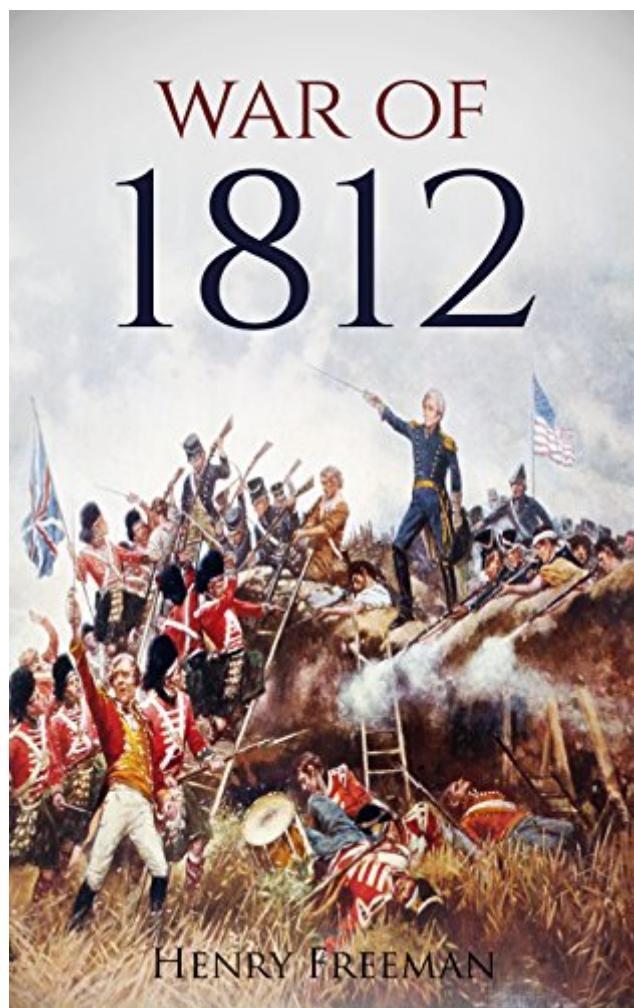


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War Of 1812: A History From Beginning To End



Synopsis

War of 1812 The War of 1812 is often forgotten when we think about the history of the United States. Yet the effects of what seems a minor and insignificant conflict are far-reaching, even to today. The world settled into the roles it would play out for decades, and the boundaries of the United States and Canada would be set for the next two hundred years. Inside you will read about...
The Beginning of the War
From Tippecanoe to War Hawks
The War in the North
The Battles of the Middle United States: Iowa and Lake Erie
The Patriot War
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A Bit About Pirates
What is the impact of the War of 1812? And much more! Unlikely heroes would rise, leading to eventual power, while Native Americans would play out their own struggle on a backdrop of bloodshed and intrigue.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I feel a little sad that I have to criticize a book that is free, but it is necessary so those who read it will have been warned. Some comments on the British practice of impressment are a bit misleading. They did not "sweep the streets" to obtain men. They needed sailors and, obviously, many men

were not sailors. Men who had no experience at sailing would have needed training and under wartime conditions the Royal Navy did not have the time to do that. Also, it is not true that "the majority of men who were pressed into service were either drunk or severely beaten and pressed while unconscious." Another false statement is that "Foreign ships were officially exempt from boarding." Large numbers of British sailors were serving on foreign commercial ships and the British considered it their right to board them and impress any British subjects they found. What was officially prohibited was the impressing of foreign nationals. Unfortunately, many foreign nationals, and in particular Americans, were impressed by the British. In referring to the embargo of late 1807 Freeman claims it was repealed in 1808 when it was actually 1809. He also states: "neither England nor France much missed American goods, and barely noticed the embargo. But American industry, dependent on exports, began to suffer." The US had very little industry at that time and its exports were mainly agricultural products and natural resources such wood products. It was these areas that were impacted by the embargo not industry. As for Britain, the impact of the embargo was definitely felt since they could not sell their products to the US. What saved the British, and damaged the effectiveness of the embargo, was the opening up of the Spanish markets in South America after Napoleon invaded Spain. He refers to the Chesapeake-Leopard Affair and says that Jefferson "called out and organized 100,000 militia" to prepare for war. Actually, that action by Jefferson refers to an event a few weeks after the attack on the Chesapeake when a British naval force blockaded Norfolk, Virginia. They were angry with US criticism of the British and Jefferson worried the British actions would push the countries to war. Freeman states that the Indians in the Northwest were "bought and paid for by Great Britain." This is seriously overstating the situation. The Indians were angry with the US invasion of their territory and the highly questionable land deals that were being made by William Henry Harrison. That was the main reason for the conflict between Indians and American settlers. The British needed support of the Indians if there was a war with the US and they maintained friendly relations with them. They did encourage their resistance to making anymore land deals. The British did not encourage the Indians to go to war and even told them not to unless the US went to war with Britain. In giving reasons for war Freeman surprisingly fails to mention the Orders-in-Council concerning maritime trade. These were a separate issue from impressment and most historians agree they were the primary reason for the declaration of war by the US. It is also stated that: "Major-General Brock joined with Tecumseh and took a key American post at Michilimackinac Island...." This is not true. Neither Brock nor Tecumseh were involved with the taking of this post. At Queenston Heights he states that "Tecumseh survived after the battle." Tecumseh was not even present at that battle. He did not come east with Brock after the capture of

Detroit. In describing the result at Plattsburgh after the British naval defeat he states that Prevost "had no choice but to retreat, as his supplies were cut off without naval support." This is not accurate. The British supplies were never "cut off" as the Americans were in position to do that. The victorious US ships were so battered they could not threaten the British supply lines. Referring to the southern Indians Freeman states: "The Red Sticks were one time followers of Tenskwatawa and Tecumseh, who had fled south following the massacre at Tippecanoe." This statement makes no sense. There was no massacre by either side at Tippecanoe. The Red Sticks were not at Tippecanoe so they obviously did not flee south. Tecumseh was actually already in the South at the time of the battle at Tippecanoe. I could write more but the problems with this work are abundantly evident.

It is important to note that this work runs just 50 pages. So it must be considered an introduction to a complex and fascinating conflict. I am no expert on the War of 1812 but having read previous histories I noted a few inconsistencies regarding key players. After finishing the book I looked these up and read fellow reader's reviews who noted them as well. I should have done the latter from the start so recommend you do so too. I did appreciate Freeman's take on the causes of the war and how he brought in the Southern aspect. However, I think the overall result does not give this bit of history its due. On a side note having lived in, near or visited so many of the battle sites makes this particular war strangely personal. I have lived in Toronto and visited Plattsburgh, Washington, Kingston, and Niagara (plenty of memorials in the area). In the end, I recommend looking elsewhere if you want more detail and research.

Although the book has been criticized for errors, this book still had a lot of information about a war that is often overlooked. My Jr. High School history class only devoted about 7 pages to it out of our book, and the teacher spent about 45 minutes lecturing about the War of 1812. Here, we are given a review of the background that led to the actual war. We learn about our National Anthem, the very important burning of D.C, the heroics of those who fought, etc. This war has had influence on the development of our country, and an indirect influence on Canada. It was a great summer read for all ages. So, keep in mind that the book has been criticized for some errors. For the most part, however, it does a good job to introducing the reader to a very important chapter in American (and British, although they have forgotten the war) history. This book is certainly better than my Jr. High school history class.

This is the most in depth book about the War of 1812 I've ever read. It is very detailed and undoubtedly the most interesting history book I've read in years. I learned a great deal from this author and I would recommend it to everyone interested in the History of the United States. Thanks for a great read.

Shame on me. I should have read the item description a little more closer. A quick outline of the events of the War of 1812 but not a "history" book I was looking for. Again, my fault.

Do you actually feel that \$12.99 was an acceptable price for this short pamphlet? Unfortunately, I read the reviews after I purchased this book. Other people left negative reviews when they got it FREE. I paid \$12.99 and feel ripped off. Do not purchase this "book"! It is a waste of money!

I liked the way this was written, sorry sweet and to the point. It brought out the highlights of this time period with the important characters of the time. The ending was well put together closing out the war off 1812 with the final outcome of several of our main characters. I really enjoyed this book and it was a quick read.

This is a quick overview of the war and it brought out the real reason for it, but it was very confusing to me. So many names to try to keep straight, too many battles to try to understand. It did refresh some points but confused me on others.

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