

Eighth of January

(Battle of New Orleans)

D Major

♩ = 80

Traditional tune; words by Jimmy Driftwood

Arr. Pete Showman

Musical score for "Eighth of January" in D Major, 2/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff starts with a boxed 'A' and has chords D, G, A7, D. The second staff starts with a '5' and has chords D, G, A7, D. The third staff starts with a boxed 'B' and has chords D, A7, D. The fourth staff starts with a '13' and has chords D, A7, D. The music is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major).

The tune was probably adapted from an earlier tune to commemorate the Battle of New Orleans, which was won by Andrew Jackson on January 8, 1815 during the War of 1812. High-school principal Jimmy Driftwood wrote the words much later, in the 1950's. They were recorded by Johnny Horton; the song won the 1959 Grammy Award for Song Of The Year, and Horton won the Grammy for Best Country And Western Performance the same year.

First verse and chorus:

1. Well, in eighteen fourteen 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.

Ch. *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',
down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.*

Arr. and typeset in ABC by Pete Showman 1/1/2006; rev 2 3/6/2012