

1812 COCKADE AND STOCK

The military collection of the Ohio Historical Society contains an interesting leather cockade and neck stock from the War of 1812. This cockade was worn at the Surrender of Detroit in 1812 by Joseph Oborn, a private in Captain George Sanderson's Company of Ohio Militia, raised in Fairfield County on 13 April 1812 for one year's service.¹ The company was a part of General Lewis Cass's force which was surrendered along with Hull's forces, both of which were paroled until exchanged in May 1814.

The cockade is well made of black leather measuring 4-3/4" by 3-5/8". It is pierced with four pairs of sewing holes and a slot for a button. The upper fan contains the arms of the United States, an eagle with arrows and olive branch, and a ribbon embossed "E Pluribus Unum." Fifteen six-pointed stars are shown in the upper right corner of the fan. The cockade is die-stamped, as indicated by the sharp design and the presence of trimming marks visible on several of the points.

The stock, also of black leather, was worn by Captain Jacob Boerstler of the Williamsburg Company of Riflemen. This company was raised in Clermont County, Ohio on 24 April 1812 and served until 24 October 1812 as part of the 3d Regiment of Ohio Militia.² On the march to Detroit it was also attached to Cass' Regiment. The company was engaged at the Battle of

Brownstown on 5 August 1812. During the battle, Captain Boerstler and three other members of the company were killed, while another died later of wounds.³

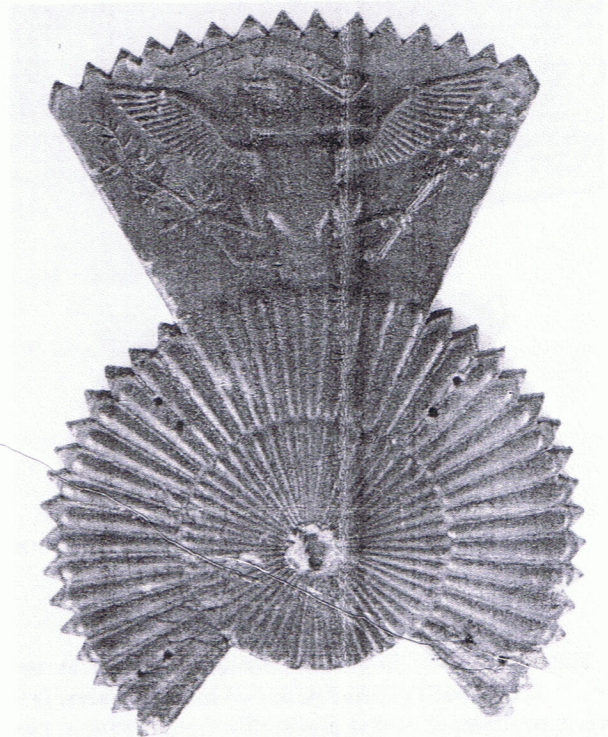
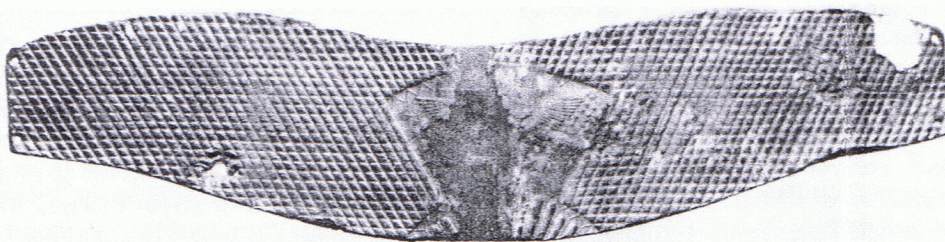


Figure 2. Leather cockade, War of 1812, worn by Joseph Oborn at the Surrender of Detroit.

Figure 1. Leather stock and cockade. Note bullet hole in lower left edge of stock and use of the same die on both items.



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