

A SESQUICENTENNIAL ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ MOMENT

Nov. 2-8, 1862

On Nov. 5, 1862, Union troops embarked on a 250-mile expedition through the mountains of Pocahontas, Highland and Pendleton counties in western Virginia.

“We camped the first night at what was formerly called Huttonsville, but at this time there is no sign of a town except the chimneys of houses that formerly constituted the town, as it has all been burned to the ground.”

The member of the 12th Virginia Regiment who wrote those words to the *Wheeling*

Intelligencer also reported that Huntersville fared only slightly better.

“It consists of some 15 or 20 houses, including the courthouse and jail, all deserted, there

being but one family in the town.”

The Union soldier described Monterey as the “exception to the balance of the towns we passed

through. ... But this town like all the balance where the two contending armies have been encamped shows very plainly the destruction that follows them.”

Averaging 21 miles per day, the troops captured at least 40 bushwhackers, 150 head of cattle, 25 horses and a considerable number of arms. They also saw some destruction caused by the ongoing Civil War.

This sesquicentennial moment is brought to you by the West Virginia Sesquicentennial Commission and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, Archives and History Section.

For more information, visit www.wvculture.org