# A Sesquicentennial Moment

## June 16-22, 1861

During the third week of June in 1861, leaders in Richmond and Wheeling were jockeying for control over the divided state of Virginia.

Delegates to the Virginia Convention in Richmond adopted the Constitution of the Confederate States of America while their counterparts in Wheeling voted to restore Virginia's government to the Union.

Delegates to the Second Wheeling Convention appointed their own state auditor, treasurer and secretary, and Francis H. Pierpont became the first and only governor of the Reorganized Government of Virginia.

The restoration of a Union government for Virginia would open the door to the formation of the new state of West Virginia.

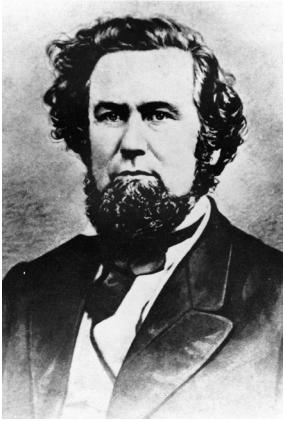

*Photo Courtesy of State Archives*

***This sesquicentennial moment is brought to you by the Archives&History Section of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History.***

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