

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

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MARCH 8 – 14, 1863

Ten Union soldiers beat back a much larger Confederate force that launched successive attacks against them in Pendleton County on March 12 and 13, 1863.

A letter written by John Boggs on March 14, 1863, says the Union held its ground against 70 Confederates, followed by more than 100 enemy forces.

“You may think this a big tail (tale) but I do assure [sic] you that every word is true as I have stated it,” Boggs said in

his letter to James Carskadon of Hampshire County. “I consider it the greatest victory of the ware [sic] we are holding our place.”

Boggs urged his superior officers to send reinforcements as soon as possible. “The rebes say they will come with fore [sic] hundred and kill us all ... pleas [sic] do all you can for us.”

In a nota bene at the bottom of Boggs’ letter, he apologized for the misspellings and lack of punctuation.

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***“Please excuse bad writing as I have got in from hunting the rebes the rebes intends to smash us before the election.”***

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*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.*

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