A Sesquicentennial Moment

September 21-27, 1862

Without a single loss of man, Union soldiers chased Confederate forces to the town of Buffalo on Sept. 26, 1862, capturing three cavalry, killing five and wounding five.

Col. Joseph A.J. Lightburn

Members of the 91st Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry also seized all of the Confederates' camping equipment, 13 horses, 17 head of cattle, and eight to 10 Enfield rifles.

"Considering this was the first time the 91st was under fire, after a night march of 22 miles, their conduct deserves the highest praise," according to an article published Oct. 2, 1862, in the *Gallipolis Journal.*

Union Col. John A. Turley and Col. Joseph A.J. Lightburn said in a Sept. 28, 1862, dispatch to headquarters that they learned "the strength and situation of the enemy's forces" after capturing a rebel scout.

"We pursued them into the town and to the river, where they separated, panic-stricken," their dispatch reads.

The two colonels also gave the troops high praise for their bravery.

"… not a single officer or soldier of the Ninety-first faltered, and, as this is a new regiment never before under fire, I cannot refrain from saying that they acted like veterans and elicited my admiration."

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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