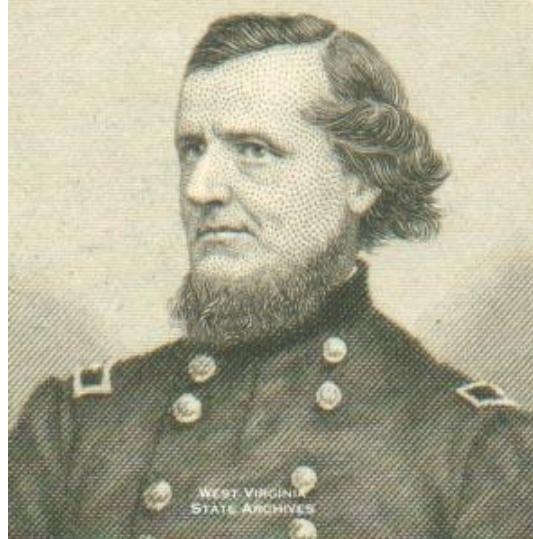


ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY FEBRUARY 2



On the evening of February 2, 1864, Confederate troops under Major James H. Nounnan launched a raid that resulted in the capture of Union General E. P. Scammon and the steamer *B. C. Levi* at Red House early on the following morning.

CSO: SS.8.22, ELA.8.1, ELA.8.19, ELA.8.22

Investigate the Document: (*Adjutant Generals' Papers, Ar382, Box 31*)

Document 1

1. What is the correspondence from General Scammon to Governor Boreman regarding?
2. General Scammon believes Dr. Caldwell's intimate knowledge of the _____ and _____ are good reasons to have him assigned as the Provost Marshal (head of military police) for the district.
3. Had West Virginia been admitted to the Union at the time of this correspondence? How do you know?

Document 2

4. Who wrote it? When? Why? To whom was this letter directed?
5. How does this source add to your understanding of the American Civil War?
6. What historical questions can you answer using this source? What are the benefits of using primary sources?

Think Critically: Imagine yourself as President Lincoln in late June 1863. The war had not gone according to plan. Defeat is becoming a legitimate possibility. Write a passage (**3-5 sentences**) in your “journal” about your mindset. Are you prepared to fight until the bitter end? Are you prepared for the possibility of negotiations with the Confederacy and the prospect of a permanent split of the Union?

- What would have happened if the South had won the war? Would slavery have continued? How did the Union’s goals change during the war? What lasting impact(s) has the Civil War left behind?

GEN. ELIAKIM P. SCAMMON

Letter about creating a union secret service in the Kanawha
Ft. Scammon (Fayetteville) and Charleston (Fort Hill) named
for him

Head Quarters 3rd Division,

8th Army Corps,

Charleston, W. Va., May 24, 1863.

To His Excellency

The Governor of Virginia:

Some time ago the following plan for obtaining swift and accurate information from our front was discussed by the Adjutant General of Virginia (in your absence) and one of my staff:

The Governor of Virginia to select not exceeding three citizens of known and approved loyalty from each of the border counties, to be employed in the secret service of the Government; whose duty it shall be to report instantly, to the nearest military commander of U.S. forces all movements of the enemy on our front, and all information of whatever kind which may be valuable to the military service — such persons to be paid a stated compensation out of appropriate Quarter Master funds of the Army. The persons employed to follow ostensibly their ordinary avocations, and to be, in the fullest sense of the term, secret service men.

Such an arrangement would be of great value to the military service, and I therefore highly approve of it. If it meets your approbation I respectfully ask that you make the requisite selections, immediately, and forward the list to me. Of course the names should be held in the strictest confidence.

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully,
Your Obedt. Servt.
E. P. Scammon
M.G.

Head Quarters 3rd Division,
DEPARTMENT WEST VA.,

Charleston, West Va. Nov. 13. 1863.

His Excellency,
Governor Boehman:

If your Excellency can,
consistently, appoint S^r Caldwell, a Captain
in one of the West Virginia Regiments,
I would like to employ him as Provost
Marshal in this District. His intimate
knowledge of the country & people would
be of great advantage to the Service.

I have the honor to be,
Very Respectfully,
Yr Obedt Serv^t

E. P. Sammons
Brig. Genl.
C. S. G.

S^r Caldwell's address is
J. F. Caldwell M^d.
Charleston, W. V.