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## MARCH 2-8, 1862

Union Brig. Gen. Frederick W. Lander died in camp at Paw Paw on March 2, 1862, two weeks after asking to be relieved of his duty because he had been badly wounded in battle.

Lander was wounded in his leg near Edward's Ferry on Feb. 14 after leading a successful charge against a Confederate camp at Bloomery Gap. The man who had made a name for himself during the Battle of Philippi in June 1861 died roughly two weeks later from congestion of the brain.

Under Lander's command, Union troops reopened telegraph and railroad service to Hancock. Lander also reported breaking up a rebels' nest at Bloomery Gap and capturing 65 prisoners, including 17 Confederate officers. That feat was accomplished after troops under his command built a bridge of wagons across the Great Cacapon in just four hours during the dead of night.

In Lander's dispatch to Union Gen. George McClellan in which he asked to be relieved, the wounded general told McClellan that his work was done and his health was "too much broken to do any severe work." "If not relieved, must resign," Lander wrote to McClellan. Lander died before receiving any response from McClellan.

The New York Tribune described Lander as "one of its (the Union's) bravest and most energetic officers, and one who had given the highest promise of valuable service in this its time of greatest need."

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