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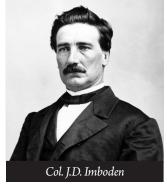
## Nov. 9-15, 1862

As snow fell "in unabated violence" for three days in early November 1862, nearly 300 Confederate soldiers plodded along a rarely used cattle path across the Shenandoah Mountain toward St. George in Tucker County.

Some of the men had no coats or blankets to keep them warm along their 38-mile journey. The terrain was so difficult that their horses had to be led rather than ridden.

"If you are familiar with that country you will not be surprised to learn that it will be several weeks before my horses regain their strength and vigor," Col. J.D. Imboden later wrote to Lt. Gen. Stonewall Jackson.

At one point along the way, the men got lost "in one of the darkest and most impenetrable pine forests of the Allegheny," Imboden said.



And though their journey was difficult, they accomplished their mission with relative ease. Upon reaching St. George just after dawn on Nov. 9, they had a brief exchange of gunfire before Union Capt. William Hall surrendered.

Confiscating the Union soldiers' overcoats and blankets was an added bonus of that Confederate victory.

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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