

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

MAY 18 - 24, 1863

Letter from Webster.

WEBSTER, W. VA., May 23, 1863.

Editors Intelligencer:

A May 23, 1863, correspondence uses a bit of humor to update editors at the *Wheeling Intelligencer* of news from the troops.

Signed only with the initials N.N.H., the letter says he was “happy to contradict” what he had previously written about the fate of Randolph County Sheriff J. Frank Phares. Apparently Phares “was not killed,” N.N.H. wrote. “He is now living and in a fair way to recover.”

The letter writer also said Union soldiers were capturing “an occasional horse thief

... better known as (Confederate Gen. John) Imboden’s cavalry!”

N.N.H. also described some officers he had met as “such a noble set of good fellows that I hope they will stay with us to assist in cleaning out the scurry devils who now infest our ‘happy land of Canaan.’”

The best news N.N.H. said he had to offer was that Gen. William Averill had replaced Gen. B.S. Roberts. “I have no objections to Gen. Roberts only that he did not know the country, and was a little too slow.”

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