

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

Nov. 23-29, 1862

Referring to the *Wheeling Press* as a treasonable newspaper, Union Brig. Gen. R.H. Milroy banned everyone under his command from reading or circulating the newspaper.

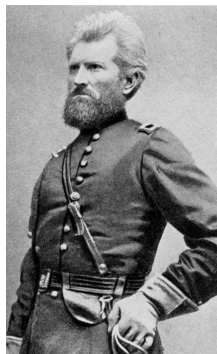
The general's Nov. 24, 1862, order accused the newspaper of inciting alarm, advocating a disgraceful compromise, spreading a spirit of disaffection and poisoning the minds of people living in western Virginia.

"A corrupt and disloyal press or party may be tolerated in times of peace with impunity," Milroy said in his order, "... but in time of War, when the voice of reason is drowned amid the clangor of arms, when men form their opinions, however erroneous, and rush to arms to maintain and enforce them;

no newspaper, or party should be tolerated which disseminates (sic) error and cultivates hostility to the Government."

Anyone caught with a copy of the *Wheeling Press* was subject to arrest.

A note informing the editors of the *Wheeling Intelligencer* of the general's order says: "Soldiers engaged in the service of their country see no reason why they should imperil their lives to sustain our institutions, whilst corrupt and traitorous Editors are permitted insidiously to undermine them and labor for their overthrow."



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