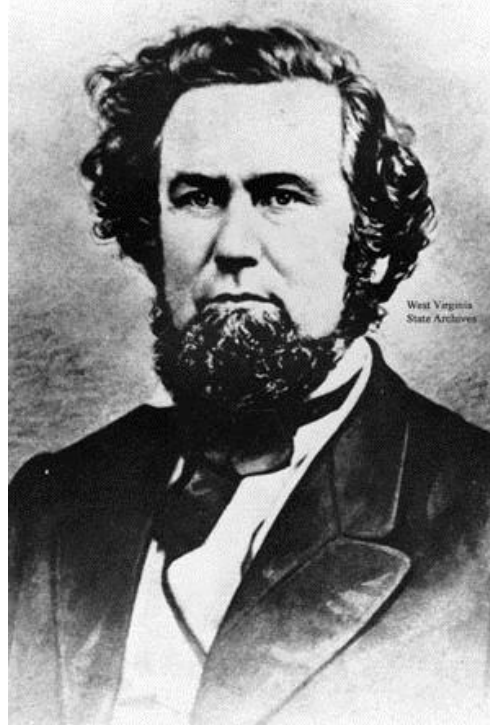


ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY JANUARY 25



Francis Pierpont, who served as Governor of the Reorganized Government of Virginia and is known as the "Father of West Virginia," was born in Monongalia County on January 25, 1814.

CSO: SS.8.22

Investigate the Document: (Pierpont-Samuels Collection, Pierpont to Samuels, June 16, 1863)

1. Why do you think this document was written?
2. According to the date listed on the letter, had West Virginia yet to become the thirty-fifth state into the Union?
3. From what city did Francis Pierpont pen this letter? What was the significance of this city at the time it was written?

Think Critically: Construct a timeline of West Virginia statehood, beginning with the delegates in Richmond vote to submit a secession bill to the people through June 20, 1863. What differences did western Virginia and eastern Virginia have that made the split, inevitable? What role did the Restored Government of Virginia serve? Were they pro-Union or pro-Secession? What role did Francis Pierpont fulfill during the statehood movement?

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West Virginia State Archives

Br. Genl. N. C. Samuels
Aug. 14th 1863

Issue an order to Br. Genl.
Samuel J. Wheat, directing ^{to}
concentrate, without unnece-
sary delay, at Wheeling,
the 163rd, 103rd, 161st, 44th and 5th
Regiments of the 2nd Brigade
V. M. and the 134th Regt. of
the same Division at
Moundsville in Marshall
Co. He will ^{you} report from
(day ^{early} to day) the organization
and arrival of the several
regiments at the appointed
rendezvous.

J. H. Peirpoint
Governor

Wheeling June 16th 1863