

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

JUNE 7-13, 1861

“You will, ere this, no doubt, be informed of the unhappy fate of General Garnett, who fell while acting the part of a gallant soldier.”

This message from Union Gen. George B. McClellan officially announced that Confederate Gen. Robert S. Garnett had become the first general from either side to die in the Civil War.

Garnett was killed July 13 at Corrick’s Ford. Two days earlier Union forces had defeated Confederates at the battle of Rich Mountain in Randolph County. By mid-July, Confederate forces had been driven from the majority of present-day West Virginia.

These victories also elevated McClellan’s national reputation and gave Union leaders in Wheeling a sense of security that allowed them to proceed with plans to break away from Virginia.



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