

**ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY
DECEMBER 23**

Daniel Duane Tompkins Farnsworth, who served as governor of West Virginia for seven days in 1869, was born on December 23, 1819.

CSO: SS.8.2, SS.8.23, ELA.8.1

Investigate the Document: (Farnsworth Collection)

1. What is Governor Farnsworth saying in this letter?
2. What do you think he means by the “strange news of the location of the Capital at Charleston?”

Think Critically: What might be significant about this letter? What do you think is significant about Governor D. D. T. Farnsworth? Do you know of Governor Farnsworth? What length of time did he serve as governor?

The State of West Virginia,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

Wheeling, Feb 27th 1869

My very Dear Father and Mother,

I thought I would drop you a line and let you know that I have not forgotten you, and more especially since by the force of circumstances which has placed me in the position which I now occupy. I must confess that I owe my success in life, to the goodness of God, and the early training that I received from faithful and ever to be honored Parents.

I have never yet forgotten, the last good and faithful lesson which you gave me, when I first left your home. Nor have I forgotten the promise that I then made to keep and obey that Council. I say this, because I feel that it is but a poor tribute to that respect which is due you. I send you a paper that will give you the strange news of the location of the Capitol at Charleston. I should be pleased to hear from you. My love to all. Your unworthy Son,

O. D. S. Sawworth Governor.