

Biographies of West Virginia statehood leaders were prepared by Marshall University Humanities Program graduate students enrolled in Dr. Billy Joe Peyton's Fall 2010 "Historical Studies" class at Marshall's South Charleston campus.

By Andrew J. Wood

John Boggs, the son of John and Margaret Kee Boggs was born on October 15, 1815 in Franklin, Virginia. His family is of Irish decent, and they settled in the region in 1807. In 1845, he married Elizabeth Carr of Pendleton County of which there were seven children: Joseph F., Isaac P., Henrietta, Aaron C., Martin Kenny, and William H., and John A. He was a member of the West Virginia Constitutional Convention and was later part of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 9th Legislatures of the new state. During the war, in 1863 he organized the "Pendleton Scouts" who were also known as the "Swamp Dragons". These "scouts" fought at the battle of Petersburg. The Civil War is often referred to as the "War between Brothers," and the Boggs family was no exception to this. While John was fighting with the Union his brother Aaron joined with the Confederacy. He was elected as Sheriff of Pendleton County twice in 1865-66 and 1867-71. At his death in May 14, 1893, he was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Bibliography

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Year: 1870; Census Place: *Union, Pendleton, West Virginia*; Roll: *M593_1697*; Page: *444A*;
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Year: 1880; Census Place: *Union, Pendleton, West Virginia*; Roll: *1411*; Family History Film:
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