

Name: _____

Date: _____

WORKSHEET

Chapter 12: The Civil War and West Virginia's Statehood Movement
Section 1: Early Events Set the Stage for Big Changes

Poetry

Directions: Read the following poem by Louise McNeil. Then answer the questions below.

STATEHOOD (1861-1863)

How was West Virginia made?
By rifle-gun and burnished blade,
And by a careful coup d'état
That got around the Federal law.

How was West Virginia born?
By the war-dogs she was torn,
Scourged with battle,
Lashed by thorn.

How did West Virginians come into statehood?

By the drum.

By the paper and the pen –
Written by the Wheeling men –
Drawn with lines upon a map,
Bounded by the ridge's gap,
Bounded by the river's stream,
Bounded by the bullet's scream.

West Virginia's anguished birth?
Out of Freedom's rocky earth,
By the lawyer, and the sword,
By brothers' blood that poured

1. What is a coup d'état?

2. How did West Virginia become a state by "paper and the pen"?



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3. How did West Virginia become a state by "the sword"? _____

4. Was the paper and the pen or the sword more important? Explain. _____

