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Letter From the Editor

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Readers,

Whether one seeks to improve in the classroom, on the athletic field, or in the editing of Gettysburg College’s third issue of The Gettysburg Historical Journal, progress is a concept that one often takes for granted. In the words of James Bryant Conant, a renowned chemist, educator, and public servant, “Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out.”

I trust that this third issue of The Gettysburg Historical Journal has compelled both the editors and the authors included within this work to reach above and beyond expectations and to “stick [our] neck[s] out,” demonstrating the potential that lies within amateur editors and writers at the undergraduate level.

In this third issue of “our journal,” we present a work that is diverse in its scope and content. Women’s history, discussed in the contexts of Renaissance Europe and Gettysburg College; German history; and the history of Early America are all themes that are included within this work. We argue that the authors of these works have not presented historical “reports,” so to speak, but pieces of writing that offer cogent arguments and comprehensive research.

These authors have dared to “stick [their] neck[s] out” and have thus shed new light on to a number of topics. They, as well as the editors of the third issue of The Gettysburg Historical Journal, invite you to enjoy this work by remembering the lesson of the turtle.

Keith R. Swaney
General Editor