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Front Matter

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If you or anyone you know has written an undergraduate paper in the past five years about the Civil War Era or its lasting memory and meets the following categories and requirements then visit our website at http://cupola.gettysburg.edu/gcjce/ and enter your work for consideration for next year’s publication.

Requirements and Categories for Publication:

- Should be written and submitted in a Word Document with Times New Roman, 12 point font

- Include a submission page with the following information: your name, school, graduation year, and the date the paper was originally published

1. **Academic Essays**: Original research with extensive use of primary and secondary sources. Possible topics include but are not limited to military history, social history, race, reconstruction, memory, reconciliation, politics, the home front, and etcetera. **6,000 words or under**.

2. **Book Reviews**: Any non-fiction Civil War related book published in the last two years. Authors
should have knowledge of the relevant literature to review. **700 words or under.**

3. **Historical Non-fiction Essays:** This category is for non-fiction works regarding the Civil War that are not necessarily of an academic nature. Examples of this include essays in public history of the war, study of the re-enactment culture, current issues in the Civil War field, etcetera. Creativity is encouraged in this field as long as it remains a non-fiction piece. **2,000 to 6,000 words.**

Any student with an interest in the Civil War may submit. This includes graduate students as long as the work submitted is undergraduate work written within the past five years. If your submission is selected, your work will be published online and in a print journal, which you will receive a copy of for your own enjoyment.
A Letter from the Editors

It has been an absolute honor to serve as the editors of the Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era for the spring of 2014. Fielding and reading the scholarship of our peers in the field of the American Civil War never fails to be informative, and the width and breadth of article subjects submitted this year broadened our own interest and awareness of the numerous facets of the historical discipline as it has been applied to this seminal conflict in the development of our nation. Of seventeen total submissions, it was a trying task to select only five for final publication. We would like to extend our profuse gratitude for the tireless dedication of our associate editors, Valerie Merlina (’14), Heather Clancy (’15), Brianna Kirk (’15), Thomas Nank (’16), Kevin Lavery (’16), and Steven Semmel (’16), without whom this effort would have been exponentially more difficult. The guidance of our faculty advisor, Dr. Ian Isherwood, has also proven invaluable, as has his practice of letting us find our own way whenever possible.

The five pieces included herein are an eclectic mix of academic essays, book reviews, and interviews that showcase the diversity of Civil War Era Studies. This issue of the journal opens with “Freedmen with Firearms: White Terrorism and Black Disarmament During Reconstruction,” written by David Schenk of Marquette University, which deals with the oft-overlooked efforts of newly-freed African-Americans to violently resist the white supremacist oppression of the Reconstruction South. Next comes “Île à Vache and Colonization: The
Tragic End of Lincoln’s ‘Suicidal Folly,’” written by Graham Welch of Georgetown University, in which the original plan for the foreign settlement of free blacks during the Civil War is examined in detail. The first of our book reviews, written by Brexton O’Donnel of the University of Mary Washington, analyzes Bruce Levine’s 2013 work *The Fall of the House of Dixie*, while the second, written by Heather Clancy of Gettysburg College, looks at Caroline Janney’s 2013 book *Remembering the Civil War: Reunion and the Limits of Reconciliation*. The journal closes with an exclusive interview with D. Scott Hartwig, the recently retired Supervisory Historian of Gettysburg National Military Park, wherein he reflects on his own career and what the future holds.

The entire process of compiling this issue has been filled with trials and tribulations, as is any editing job, and has assisted the both of us in realizing our editorial and academic potential. It is thus with the utmost pleasure that we present Volume 4 of the Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era, and eagerly look forward to the publication of many more.

Sincerely,

Bryan G. Caswell, Gettysburg College Class of 2015  
Peter S. D’Arpa, Gettysburg College Class of 2014
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