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To Waken Fond Memory: Moments in the History of Gettysburg College

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Gettysburg College

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To Waken Fond Memory: Moments in the History of Gettysburg College

Description

Between 1975 and 1989 Anna Jane Moyer produced a series of essays for the Gettysburg College alumni magazine capturing “moments” on campus and in the town of Gettysburg since 1832. Treating people, places, and notable events over the course of the College’s first 150 years, Moyer’s sketches reached an appreciative audience at the time. But with the Gettysburg College 175th anniversary approaching, it seemed appropriate to make her writing more readily available to alumni, friends of the College, students, and scholars.

The sketches now republished in *To Waken Fond Memory* remind readers that the culture of a liberal arts college is never static, yet that certain elements remain important through the generations—among them a strong sense of community and growing readiness among students to influence the world beyond the Gettysburg campus. The longest of Moyer’s collected pieces, “Mandolins in the Moonlight,” was originally published under a different title, as part of a series of pamphlets marking the College’s sesquicentennial. Like the shorter vignettes featured in this book, “Mandolins in the Moonlight” evokes most charmingly the ways students have interacted with their professors and their peers and in small ways and larger ones, made their mark. Taken together, the essays in *To Waken Fond Memory* will evoke a Gettysburg past that still resonates and informs its present identity.

Keywords

Gettysburg College, college life, literary society, alumni, education for women, Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Woman's General League, Battle of Gettysburg, Battle Reunion, 75th Anniversary, Blue and Gray, Henry Eyster Jacobs, Samuel Simon Schmucker, John Hopkins, Confederate soldier, Herman Haupt, Martin Luther Stoeber, William Tipton, Philip Bikle, Charles H. Huber, Cora Berkey, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Brua Hall, Weidensall, Musselman Library, Schmucker Library, Hotel Gettysburg

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Comments

The introduction was written by Dr. Michael J. Birkner, Professor of History at Gettysburg College.



TO WAKEN FOND MEMORY

MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY
OF GETTYSBURG COLLEGE



ANNA JANE MOYER

To Waken Fond Memory:
*Moments in the History of
Gettysburg College*

Anna Jane Moyer

*Whenever thy loyal ones gather,
To waken fond memory,
Our thoughts shall be turned Alma Mater,
Old Gettysburg back to thee...*

*From the Gettysburg College Alma Mater,
Words by Paul S. Gilbert, Class of 1922
Music by Frederick Epling Reinartz, Class of 1924*

TO WAKEN FOND MEMORY

On the cover: View of Pennsylvania College, ca. 1862, Tyson Brothers, and Gettysburg College interfraternity dance, 1907. Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

Dedication

In loving memory of Ella Aurand Moyer,
my mother, my friend, and my first teacher,
with appreciation for her role in my
Gettysburg experience.

In fond recollection of the many
Gettysburgians whom I met at the reference desk
through their quests for information in
Schmucker and Musselman libraries.

TO WAKEN FOND MEMORY

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Foreword

It was a summer afternoon in 1975. Tucked away in the cool recesses of a formal reading room at the Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia on South 22nd Street, I was on the last lap of a fascinating quest for manuscripts relating to the life and work of Benjamin Rush, Philadelphia physician and signer of the Declaration of Independence.

As I was about to close my research, I encountered sources unfamiliar to me regarding the medical school established by Pennsylvania College (now Gettysburg College) in Philadelphia during the nineteenth century. I found the details of that brief educational endeavor so unusual that upon my return home I contacted Willard Books, the editor of the Gettysburg College alumni magazine, and offered to write an article about it for the publication. It so happened that “Woody,” as he was known, was eager to find someone who would regularly write a page, “Out of the Past.” He extended the invitation to me. Thus began my intense interest and involvement in researching and writing about the history of Gettysburg College and my crafting of the articles in this book for their first appearance in what is now published as *Gettysburg, A Magazine for Gettysburg College Alumni, Parents, and Friends*, formerly known among its readers as the alumni bulletin.

From the start my focus was the student, for it is students who embrace the College as a home away from home, bringing to campus the clothing, the snacks, the pranks, the music, the dances, the transportation, the mementos from their world. As each student generation makes Gettysburg its own, the College becomes a different place, suspended in time, a world apart. For me as a writer it was exciting to enter that world during different time periods to discover and portray the lifestyle, the events, the people who nurtured, the buildings that had a life of their own shaped by the activity within their walls. In the process of research, threads from one topic often ignited the spark for another. Space constraints could be confining; yet they became for me a challenge and an incentive to craft with care, to distill in miniature.

When the invitation came to write a history of student life at Gettysburg College as part of the College history series for the Sesquicentennial, the task seemed overwhelming, and it was! It was daunting to ferret out bits of information and stories related to student life from the complete files of the *Pennsylvania College Monthly*, the *Gettysburgian*, the *Mercury*, the *Spectrum*, other student publications, the College catalogs, and the minutes of the faculty and the Board of Trustees. The most challenging and creative aspect of the effort was to choose material to include and to construct an outline that would enable me to write a meaningful narrative. I did not have space to include many of the names of persons involved in campus leadership, nor did I detail the development of athletics as two monographs in the College history series have been devoted to that subject. My intent was to capture what it was like to be a student at Gettysburg as the changing patterns of life evolved and

shifted on campus with the growth of the College and the unfolding of current events. Thus, *The Way We Were: The History of Student Life at Gettysburg College, 1832-1982* took shape as the sixth volume in the Gettysburg College History Series, published in July 1982 as a special issue, Volume 73, Number 1, of the Gettysburg College alumni magazine. In this book it has become *Mandolins in the Moonlight*, and its new title reflects what had been a beloved College tradition.

These writings remain close to my heart and spirit, and so it is with joy that I thank those who helped to bring them together in a book: Librarian Katherine Downton in appreciation of her thoughtful and careful collaboration as she helped to make this project become a reality; the other members of the History and Traditions Sub-Committee of the 175th Anniversary Committee who shared their warm interest, especially Librarians Karen Drickamer and Kerri Odess-Harnish; Library Director Robin Wagner for her enthusiastic support of the project; Alyson Jones for tracking down photographs and scanning them; Meggan Emler Smith for proofreading; Sheryl Hollis Snyder for indexing; and especially Professor Michael Birkner, who brought forth the idea and staunchly supported it as co-chair of the 175th Anniversary Steering Committee and editor of the project.

May you find as much interest, wonder, and fun in reading these pieces as I did in writing them, and may they take you on excursions into the past that will enhance your understanding and appreciation of the College we know as Gettysburg.

*Anna Jane Moyer
Librarian Emerita
Gettysburg College
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
July 2006*

Introduction

Want to ignite a debate? Ask your friends, “What constituency best defines a college?” Is it the students who pay the tuition and test their professors as much as their professors test them? The faculty who maintain academic standards and represent the institution over a long period of time? The President who embodies the school during her or his watch? Or perhaps the alumni, whose work in the world may be the surest indicator of whether a college has delivered on its enticing promises during the mating dance known as the admissions process. I have argued this issue many times from many angles without reaching a conclusive verdict. But of one thing I am certain: you cannot claim to know a college unless you touch what happens below the surface of view books and blue books, catalogs, balance sheets and athletic trophies.

It is Gettysburg College’s good fortune that Anna Jane Moyer—long-time Readers’ Services Librarian at the College—brought a keen researcher’s sensibility and a distinctive literary gift to bear in the essays that constitute *To Waken Fond Memory*.

Between 1975 and 1989 Jane Moyer produced a stream of articles for the quarterly alumni magazine *Gettysburg*, ranging across the college experience here since its founding. Her longest piece, on student life at Gettysburg College, was originally published in 1982 as part of a series of pamphlets focused on different aspects of college history. This work and Moyer’s shorter essays have been periodically exploited by students writing papers for Historical Methods classes. But they have become, in effect, “archival” pieces that rarely surface. They deserve another life, and the approaching 175th anniversary of Gettysburg College affords the opportunity to provide it.

In the student life pamphlet and the shorter essays that have been selected for republication in this book, readers will encounter a remarkable cast of college characters and distinctive historical episodes. Moyer writes about the softer side of the College’s seemingly stern founder, Samuel Simon Schmucker, through love letters he wrote to his second wife. We meet a remarkable early faculty member named Michael Jacobs, whose “penetrating intellect and piercing black eyes” discouraged students from coming to his classes unprepared—and whose teaching in an era of Christian piety challenged his charges to think like scientists. Moyer describes collegian pranks and pleasurable pastimes—students rolling cannonballs down the hallway of Old Dorm, or stopping in at Buehler’s Drugstore on Chambersburg Street to listen to the faculty discuss current events. An evocative profile of one of the first two women to graduate from Gettysburg College—Cora Hartman Berkey—impressed one reader not least with the revelation that Berkey mastered seven languages during her four years at the College.

Campus buildings, sorority life, compulsory chapel, the Woman’s League, the college’s venerable alumni association, the Great Reunion of the Blue and the Gray,

an early 20th century smallpox scare, the “Campus Beautiful” club, and wildlife that once inhabited the Tiber—all these topics (and more) are subjects for Jane Moyer’s diligent research and fetching prose.

Whether read as a complement to Charles Glatfelter’s authoritative institutional history, *A Salutary Influence*, or on its own, *To Waken Fond Memory* provides a valuable entry point into Gettysburg life as lived over many generations. I suspect you will not soon forget those cannon balls rolling down Old Dorm’s hallway.

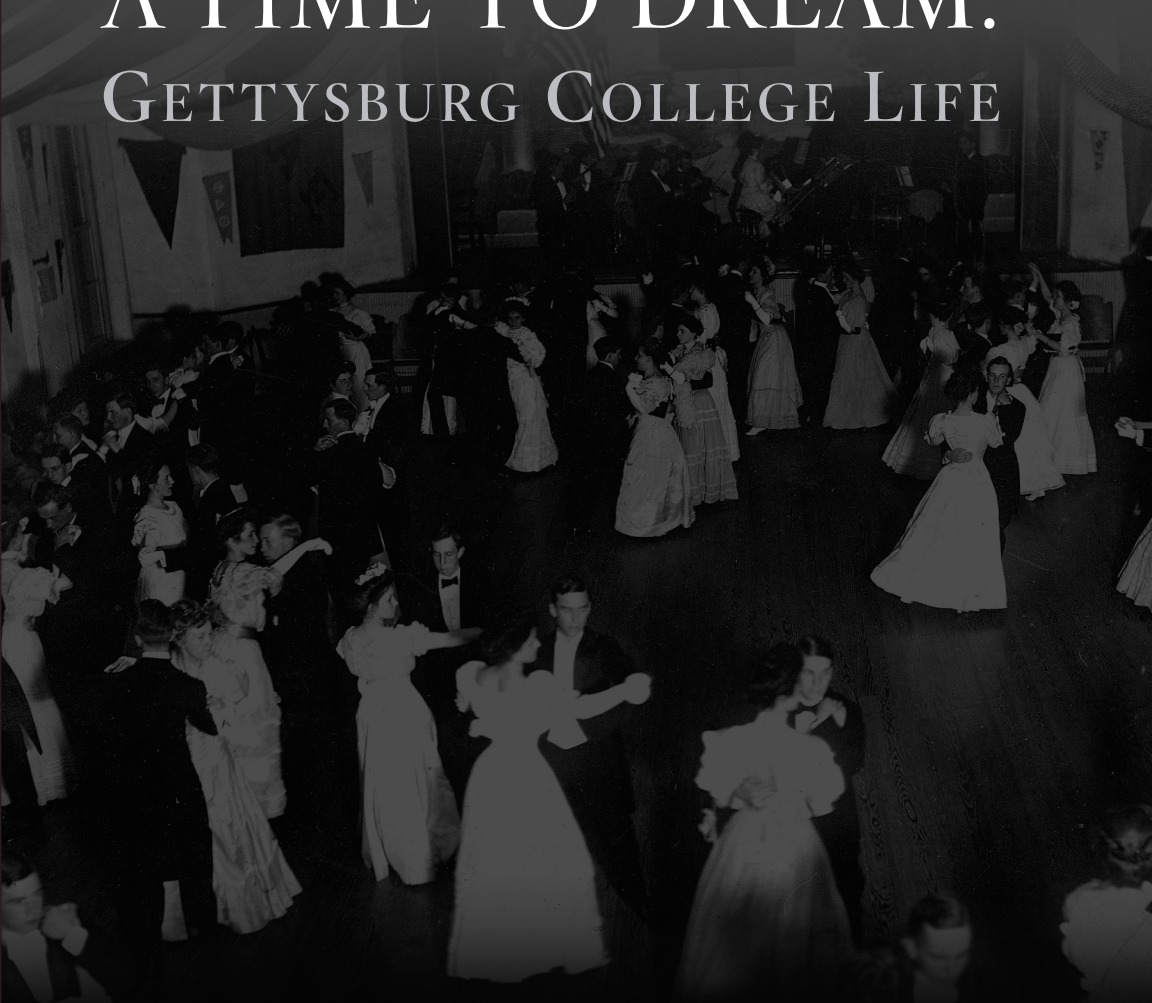
Michael J. Birkner

Professor of History and Benjamin Franklin Professor of Liberal Arts

August 12, 2006

MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

A TIME FOR LAUGHTER, A TIME TO DREAM: GETTYSBURG COLLEGE LIFE



Yes, coasting was at its best on the battlefield last weekend. Ingenious coeds, not to be stopped by a lack of equipment, namely sleds, improvised Huber Hall trays to carry them over the hard crust. Picture it for yourself: a cold winter's night, romance in the air, and the happy shrieks of G-Burg coeds gliding gracefully over the frozen surface on their trays!

Gettysburgian, February 8, 1951

I Heard It at Buehler's Drug Store

[Originally published January 1980]

In 1819, in his thirty-sixth year, Samuel H. Buehler decided to move to Gettysburg. As a young boy growing up in Lebanon, PA, he had learned a trade as a saddler and later found work in York. There he married a young lady, Catherine Danner, and began to pursue an interest in merchandising. Nearby Gettysburg had become a post coach center because of its accessible location to mail routes. The economy boomed as the carriage trade began to develop into an important local industry. The time and the place must have synchronized for Buehler. When he put up his sign, "Buehler's Drug Store," Buehler established in Gettysburg not only a family business but also a social institution for town and gown that was to endure for almost a century.

Those who went to Buehler's Drug Store for camomile or paregoric, or to purchase Lydia Pinkham's Vegetable Compound or Dr. Howard's Specific remember most the large glass decanters in the window that were filled with colored liquid in red and blue and announced the presence of an apothecary. Within the deep recesses of its interior, the store was lined along one side and across the back wall with jars and bottles, their herbs and powders identified by the Latin names they bore. The counters that fronted these shelves contained glass cases from which customers might choose cosmetics, soaps, brushes, handmirrors, stationery, and patent medicines. It was here that Samuel Buehler could be found, busy with mortar and pestle or taking some leisure sitting on a large wooden box near the window with a book on his lap.

The books that filled one wall along the entire length of the store lent Buehler's its distinctive atmosphere. On the shelves Scott kept company with Goldsmith and Cooper and their nearby neighbors Dickens and Thackery. While browsing, one could also find histories by Macaulay and Gibbon and the poetry of Milton and Longfellow. Among the wide range of subjects represented, there was a predominance of books in religion, theology, philosophy, and the classics. The eclectic selection of books for sale at Buehler's Drug Store reflected the interests of its owner, an avid reader, as well as the curriculum offered at Pennsylvania College and the Lutheran Theological Seminary, for Buehler's served as the bookstore for both institutions until after the turn of the century.



Alexander Buehler, who took over as proprietor of his father's business in 1856.

A student in pursuit of a book would not tarry long, for the crowd at Buehler's had changed from a college boys' coterie to a kind of faculty club—a gathering place where professors of the College and the Seminary discussed the issues of the day and debated their favorite topics, usually while they waited before or after the distribution of mail.

Located at 9 Chambersburg Street, the store was on the ground floor of a property purchased later at sheriff's sale in 1824 by Samuel Buehler as a combination shop and residence. For the faculty it was conveniently close to the post office near the Square and sufficiently removed from the student hangout, Eckert's, at the end of the block. In good weather as one rounded the northwest corner of the Square and turned onto Chambersburg Street, one found the sidewalk in front of Amos Eckert's dry goods store so crowded with college boys that sometimes traffic was blocked.

Moving on to Buehler's Drug Store, there are a few alumni who left their own recollections. Professor Edward Breidenbaugh, Class of 1868, recorded these memories: "Buehler's drug store was the Faculty 'clubroom' in those days. There Dr. Schmucker and President Krauth especially crossed swords in high debate, assisted occasionally by others. In warm weather the good President did not disdain to wear his gown—not academic, but of light color and slight texture—into the village; and that airy style of garment, more comfortable than classic, was adopted by many of the students."

Henry Eyster Jacobs, Class of 1862, and professor of Latin Language and Literature, has left the most complete description of Buehler's; with it is another sketch of Dr. Charles Philip Krauth, the first President of Pennsylvania College, later professor at the Seminary:

In this store, on a bright May afternoon, early in the fifties of the Nineteenth century, when doors and window were opened and the linden trees were casting a grateful shade upon the brick side-walk, a dignified and well-dressed gentleman was seated on a chair near the entrance. His cleanly-shaven face was one which would have attracted attention in any assembly. It had the stamp of character, of refinement, of cultivation, and enlisted the fullest confidence even without further acquaintance. Sympathy with life and a considerable amount of humor were united with depth of thought and intense earnestness. It bore the traces of wide and varied experience, and of keen insight into human nature. A heavy ivory-headed staff was grasped by one hand and upon it he had placed his carefully polished high silk hat, which had become burdensome for the long walk in the sun that he had taken.

To catch the feeling of former student just turned faculty member, one can note the reaction of Charles H. Huber, Class of 1892:

When I was elected a member of the faculty in 1896, one of my first acts was to saunter with a suppressed elation, up to Buehler's and take my seat on a box where I proceeded to listen to the words of older and wiser men. The conversation, as I recall it, was exceedingly interesting and informing. Each professor naturally had something to say on his own line. But there was much interest shown in history, biography, politics, and religious questions with occasionally a bit of local news. The discussions and arguments were often very earnest, but never acrimonious for those men were gentlemen to the 'manner born.'

The reputation that Buehler's Drug Store established in the community as a family business reflected the qualities of its owners—accuracy, dependability, integrity, trust, and strict attention to operation. The proprietors could be counted on as much as the old-fashioned clock in the corner, for it had become a custom for the townspeople to drop into Buehler's to check their watches as well as to converse. Henry Eyster Jacobs described Samuel H. Buehler in his later years as a tall man, slightly stooped, with curly white hair that shaded his high forehead and piercing black eyes and lent a look of benevolence to a face that reflected tenacity of purpose.

Upon the death of Samuel Buehler in 1856, Samuel Simon Schmucker sent a tribute to the Gettysburg *Star and Banner*. Among the words of appreciation are these: "Long will the Professors of the Seminary and College cherish the pleasing recollection of the uniform, constant, active friendship of the deceased. He took a prominent part in securing to our borough the location of the Theological Seminary, and thus of the College which grew out of it."

Among Buehler's eleven children, it was Alexander who joined him in the store and who later became partner and owner. A modest and retiring bachelor, Alexander shared his father's wide reading interests, and he, too, earned for himself a place on the council of the College Church, Christ Lutheran, and a position of influence in the community as a person sought out by many for advice and help.

The Buehlers had developed a warm relationship with Pennsylvania College, not only as merchants who furnished textbooks and supplementary readings or served as agents for the sale of the tickets for lectures, concerts, and plays scheduled in Brua Chapel, but as active participants in its administration. Samuel, a member of the Board of Trustees for eighteen years, had become College treasurer in 1839 and was succeeded at the time of his death by Alexander; their terms of office as treasurer totaled fifty-four years and ended in 1893 when Alexander died.

David A. Buehler, a younger son, was eleven years old when the College was founded and attended the ceremonies on July 4, 1832, that celebrated the birth of a nation and the beginnings of a struggling, growing institution of higher learning. At age twenty-two he became a graduate of the college. Nine years later as a respected lawyer and editor of the Gettysburg *Star*, later the *Star and Sentinel*, he began his thirty-five years as a Trustee, serving the Board as secretary and later as president. In keeping with tradition, a younger brother, Colonel C.H. Buehler was elected to the Board after David died in 1887.

The drug store had come under the management of Luther H. Buehler, who had worked with his Uncle Alexander and became proprietor in 1893. Before the business was closed permanently by the family in 1913, the store and its clientele had changed as the town had grown. Buehler's Drug Store still survives in the ads in old issues of the College publications, in the testimonies for patent medicines in the local newspapers, or in some lines written by alumni looking back. Yet these traces of what was probably Gettysburg's first drug store are enough to evoke it as a special place and to convey the flavor of another tempo and another time.

Join the Debate! Phrena and Philo, Rival Literary Societies

[Originally published January 1977]

On the night of February 4, 1831, thirty-five boys enrolled in the Gettysburg Gymnasium were called together in the west room on the second floor of the Academy building on High Street by Professors Michael Jacobs and J. H. Marsden. For Pennsylvania College, chartered in 1832, that evening in February was the beginning of traditions that would influence its intellectual and social life for almost a century.

As roll was called, the boys with last names in the first part of the alphabet were asked to remain in the room to organize the Phrenakosmian Literary Society. Those in the later half withdrew to the east room with Professor Jacobs to form its counterpart, the Philomathean Literary Society. As constitutions were drafted and purposes declared, it was determined that the two societies would encourage practice in oratory and composition, ease and freedom in extemporaneous speaking, as well as broaden the range of thought and culture on campus, while cultivating a taste for learning and the sentiment of friendship.

Fines were imposed upon members for a wide range of misdemeanors including neglect to speak or write in sufficient length or to dress appropriately for events and meetings of the society. The story has been told of one college student, a poor lad of great promise, whose clothing was too shabby for a respectable appearance on stage as a representative of one of the literary societies in an oratorical contest. Summoned one night by Samuel Simon Schmucker, the lad watched with apprehension as the professor took off his coat and handed it to him with the comment that he should try it on as he felt that it was rather small for himself.

Keen and sometimes bitter rivalries prevailed in the competition fostered by the two groups. "Our literary society exercises were commonly occasions of much interest and excitement," noted James A. Brown, Class of 1840. "Of course each strove for mastery. Every new arrival was carefully watched, posted and caressed, and generally had a hard time until one or the other society got him into its clutches. The annual public contest was a great event with the students, as well as with the citizens." Many a rock in the surrounding countryside served as a rostrum in rigorous practice for debate, and before the large mirror in the society halls a fellow could be caught studying the effect of his gestures.

This same rivalry resulted in the introduction of Brussels carpet during the 1850s in the societies' rooms in Pennsylvania Hall; to protect this precious luxury from hard usage, members were required to wear carpet slippers while attending meetings. The hot summer of 1863 brought an end temporarily to this regulation as furniture was stripped from the meeting rooms, and walls and floor and books were stained with the blood of wounded soldiers.

Fostering their own libraries, each society vied with the College library in maintaining a collection for the use of its members. In 1861 the Philomatheans opened the first reading room on campus. By 1892 each society received seven daily newspapers as well as a number of weekly and monthly periodicals, and each boasted of a library numbering over 5,500 books.

The completion of Recitation Hall, now known as Glatfelter, in 1889 and the aura of the 1890s brought a renaissance to Phrena and Philo. The societies' halls on the third floor of the new building ushered in an era of elegance. Phrena was proud of oak chairs with maroon leather upholstery, handsome sofas, and a delicate chandelier. Philo drew by lot the more undesirable room and persuaded the architect to expose the ceiling and case the timbers in yellow pine, filling the spaces between them with tracery and spindle work. When the project was completed, three large chandeliers with eighteen jets each cast their light on the crimson carpet, the gold chenille curtain draping the hall, the carved oak tables, and walls and ceiling frescoed in delicate pink.

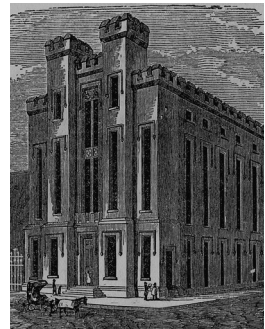
“I Swear By Apollo the Physician...”: The Medical Department of Pennsylvania College

[Originally published January 1978]

Announcements of 1849 described the new building as “the most complete and elegant structure of its kind in America.” It was situated on Ninth Street, between Walnut and Spruce, conveniently near the renowned Pennsylvania Hospital, founded in 1752 by Benjamin Franklin. The young men who matriculated at the Medical Department of Pennsylvania College that fall were proud of the new facilities and were surprised that the three lecture rooms, each seating five hundred, were shielded by their location from the noise of the Philadelphia streets and the clatter of carriages and wagons on the cobblestones.

The dissecting room was large and well-ventilated. A well-equipped laboratory provided opportunity for experiments in the chemistry of medicine, and a large museum contained the means of illustrating lectures with anatomical and pathological specimens, paintings, drawings, surgical apparatus, and models in wax, plaster, leather, and papier maché. Mannequins and obstetrical models enabled students to practice male midwifery and operations in gynecology as modesty protected the female figure. A reading room gave students and faculty access to medical journals both foreign and American.

A student entering the scene of nineteenth century medicine would have had a proliferation of schools from which to choose. In response to the needs of a growing populace, twenty-six medical schools mushroomed from 1810 to 1840 in the United States, and forty-seven more were established from 1840 to 1876. In the eighteenth century doctors had been apprentice-trained. Of the approximately 3,500 physicians practicing medicine in the Colonies by the time of the American Revolution, only about four hundred had a M.D. degree, as graduates of medical schools located chiefly in Edinburgh, London, Paris, or Leyden.



*Pennsylvania College Medical
Department, Philadelphia*
Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman
Library, Gettysburg College.

The graduates of the Medical Department of Pennsylvania College were typical of the new breed of physician, and the medical school itself was one of seven that sprang up in Philadelphia during the mid-1800s. Its origins can be traced to a letter written on September 14, 1839, to the Board of Trustees of Pennsylvania College in Gettysburg by four Philadelphia physicians. The leader of the group was Dr. George McClellan, a brilliant and talented surgeon, whose disagreements caused the severance of his relationship with Jefferson Medical College, which he founded. The request that his group be constituted as a medical faculty and a Board of Regents with the authority to confer the degree of Doctor of Medicine under the auspices of Pennsylvania College was approved by the Board of Trustees and later authorized by the State, and the Medical Department of Pennsylvania College was established in Philadelphia in 1839.

During the twenty-two years of its existence the Medical Department offered lecture courses at \$15.00 per ticket and a complete two-year course of study at approximately \$215, plus hospital and practical anatomy fees. Boarding, including fire and lights, could be found in the City for \$2.50 to \$3.00 per week. Students struggled through Anatomy, Physiology, Histology, Chemistry, Materia Medica and Pharmacy, Theory and Practice of Medicine, Principles and Practice of Surgery, Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children. Classes were usually in session from mid-October to the end of February as the dissection of cadavers was prohibitive during the warm seasons in the City.

Prerequisite to matriculation was a three year period of study in the office of a reputable physician. The Catalogs show strong evidence of further practical work enhanced by the growing reputation of Philadelphia as a center of medical activity:

On Wednesday and Saturday mornings the Students have the privilege of attending the clinical instruction at the Pennsylvania Hospital and Blockly Alms House. In the former, perhaps, a greater number of Surgical cases are treated than in any other similar Institution in this country; and in the latter there are usually upwards of two thousand patients presenting every conceivable variety of disease.

Largely autonomous in function, the Medical Department remitted one-half of the matriculation fee, or \$2.50 per student, to the parent institution, Pennsylvania College, and each year the President of the College traveled to Philadelphia to confer the degree of Doctor of Medicine. The College contributed \$900 to the erection of the new building in 1849 so that facilities could be improved.

Unlike the prestigious University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine founded in 1765, the medical schools that rose and flourished in mid-nineteenth century Philadelphia did not have the inherent strength to survive the upheaval of the Civil War, which shut off the student market from the South and caused many second-year students in the North to join the Army as surgical or clinical assistants for which they received medical school credit. Lack of funds and dissension among faculty were also contributing factors.

The reputation of these short-lived medical schools varied considerably. Harold J. Abrahams, former professor at the University of Pennsylvania and Research Associate of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, wrote in his extensive study, *Extinct Medical Schools of Nineteenth-Century Philadelphia*, published by the University of Pennsylvania Press in 1966:

As to the quality of these schools, the high water mark seems to have been attained

by the Medical Department of Pennsylvania College. . . .

All the schools in this study claimed to have adequate buildings and equipment. . . . In these attributes the leader was the Medical Department of Pennsylvania College, which, it was claimed, had the finest medical school building in America, especially designed for carrying on medical education.

Dr. Abrahams quotes these words communicated in a letter to a colleague by Dr. Edgar F. Smith, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, 1911-1920, a distinguished professor of chemistry and an 1874 graduate of Pennsylvania College:

Financial straits caused the Medical Department of Pennsylvania College to close its doors, which was very regrettable, because at the time it was conceded to be the best medical school in the city.

Thus ended a chapter in the life of the College and a chapter in the annals of medicine.

The Sophomore Exodus: An Episode of Misbehavior

[Originally published January 1976]

A reader of the *Gettysburg Times* on Saturday, February 17, 1906, would have done a double take as he scanned the headlines. In large, bold type the news blared from the front page: "Half a Hundred College Boys Suspended!" Even though Thursday's paper had carried the full story of the rampage, no one expected that punishment would reach proportions of such magnitude.

What happened on the night of February 14? The newspapers and the records of seventy years ago reveal that the traditional rivalry between sophomores and freshmen flared to the point of ignition when the Class of 1908 held a banquet without permission at the Eagle Hotel on the northeast corner of Chambersburg and Washington Streets. While the sophomores were thus engaged in revelry, the Class of 1909 seized the moment to paint their own class numerals in red inside and outside college buildings and suspend their class pennant at the entrance to the campus. Upon their return the sophomores seized the challenge and retaliated by hunting down the freshmen and forcing them to convert the '09's to '08's. In the process the sophomores abused some freshmen, broke down doors, smashed windows, piled up furniture, tied clothes in knots, and generally damaged both personal and college property.

Looking back on the year from the vantage point of having become juniors, the Class of 1908 wrote in their class history, entitled "The Tempest,": ". . . we hazed the Freshmen in a manner more thorough and completely satisfactory than Gettysburg College has ever known . . . This ever fearless class has been the cause of many heated faculty meetings, and has always been the bone of contention to all the law abiding element of the College."

The escapade of February 14 precipitated a special meeting of the faculty on Friday morning, February 16, at which twelve sophomores were heard. Although the details are blurred and the testimony unrecorded, the signatures of fifty-three boys have survived on a statement they presented concerning their conduct which is still attached to the faculty minutes of February 17, 1906:

We, the undersigned, after due consideration, do hereby submit this instrument as evidence of our equal guilt in the actions of the class of "1908" during the night of Feb. 14th. 1906, and we do also hereby signify that it is our intention to receive the

punishment, if any, as one body, for we consider ourselves equally implicated, no one member of the class being more deserving of punishment than another.

The verdict: mass suspension, indefinitely. A form letter signed by President Samuel G. Hefelbower was sent to the father of each boy informing him of the circumstances. It was felt by the faculty that some students might have been coerced to sign the paper of guilt. Five boys came forward, signed statements to that effect, and were reinstated. For the others, readmission began on February 20 with a personal appearance before the faculty and the signing of a statement assuring that no further damage to property or person would occur in the name of "class spirit."

Commenting on the situation with the wisdom of an upperclassman, the editor of the *Gettysburgian* wrote: "Class spirit is all right in its way, but a distinction must be made between it and rowdyism, and were there a possibility of our prayer being answered, we would pray that the day might be hastened when the lower classes will get a sufficient power of discernment to distinguish between them."

By spring, things had simmered down, and the episode took on the quality of myth with the publication of "The Second Book of Exodus," contained in the 1907 *Spectrum!*

“Whenever Thy Loyal Ones Gather”: The Alumni Association Celebrates 150 Years

[Originally published December 1985]

There were eleven. Together they pledged their loyalty and support to each other and to the school that fostered their academic achievement and nurtured their growing into manhood. Three of them from the class of 1834 had returned to Gettysburg to see their friends graduate. Thus it was that on Commencement Day, September 16, 1835, they rallied in the chapel room in the building on High Street, joined as sons of Pennsylvania College. Their efforts marked the founding of one of the earliest college alumni organizations in the country, and this year give us cause to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg College Alumni Association.

On that September day in 1835, Ezra Keller, one of the new graduates, was elected president. Ezra remained in Gettysburg for one year to study at the Lutheran Theological Seminary before journeying to the West as a missionary. In 1837 he returned to his native Maryland, settling in Taneytown, and later Hagerstown, as a Lutheran pastor. In 1844, nine years after his graduation from college, Wittenburg College in Ohio named Ezra Keller as its first president, a position he held until his death only four years later at age 36.

Under the leadership of their officers, the cluster of Pennsylvania College alumni adopted a constitution in 1838 that formalized the purpose of their group: “the cultivation of friendly and social feeling among its members, the advancement of the cause of education and literature, and the promotion of the best interests of *Alma Mater*.”

From the beginning, keeping records of the whereabouts of alumni and their professional attainments became a primary responsibility. It was customary for the group to meet annually during commencement week. An alumni address by one of the members became incorporated as an additional feature among the many speeches surrounding graduation. Early meetings were conducted in a spirit of conviviality. Members received the new graduates into the organization, adopted resolutions, memorialized those deceased since the last meeting, ordered printed copies of the alumni address, and selected a speaker for the next year.

By 1844, alumni at the annual gathering began discussing the financial needs of the College and the struggle for funds during periods of recession. Members were urged to join in purchasing a telescope, books for the library, and specimens for the cabinet of natural history. The group voted in 1859 to attempt to raise \$15,000 to establish a professorship; difficulties hampered the realization of this goal until 1904 when the Alumni Professorship of Mathematics and Astronomy became the first academic chair named by this group.

During the early years of activity, the alumni organization was fortunate to have as officers a number of graduates who remained in Gettysburg and provided the group with solidity, continuity, and a base of operations during its formative years. Among them were Professor Martin L. Stoeber, secretary (1842-1870); Henry J. Fahnestock, treasurer (1850-1886); Edward McPherson, president (1862-1895); Luther S. Croll, secretary (1871-1889); John A. Himes, secretary (1889-1902); Harry C. Picking, treasurer (1886-1917); Charles S. Duncan, president (1896-1902; 1906-1917). These men built a background of names and faces that was important in helping them strengthen ties of loyalty to the College and encourage alumni to return to campus.

As the graduates increased in number, friendships were rekindled and young and old shared reminiscences at the annual banquet that had become a traditional part of Commencement Week by the turn of the century. The fellows, strong on class spirit, added to the good times by holding reunions in the local hotels.

The Pennsylvania College Monthly, founded in 1877, welcomed news from graduates and depended upon its alumni editor to submit these contributions in each issue. In the interest of promoting closer ties and increased contact among alumni, the editor, Dean Philip M. Biklé, class of 1866, wrote in the *Monthly* in May 1877: "We suggest that there be formed, at an early day, *district associations* of our alumni. This, we are satisfied, would be conducive to the good, both of the alumni themselves and the Institution of which they are a part. It would bring the members of the different sections into more intimate social relations, and, by their discussions of the affairs of *Alma Mater*, awaken and maintain a deeper interest in her prosperity."

A few months after this article appeared, the Reunion of Alumni and Students of Pennsylvania College, Resident in Maryland and Other Southern States was organized in Frederick—a first attempt at forming a district group. Groups emerged in Japan, the Gettysburg area, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Yale University. These groups were short-lived, but they were the predecessors of the alumni clubs. There were those who felt that the demise of the district groups could be attributed to their serious intent. Meetings were held once or twice a year, and those present listened to one of their members speak on topics such as, "Has Radicalism Contributed More to Human Progress Than Conservatism?" or "Collegiate Culture Demanded by Our Country and Age" as well as "Prospects and Needs of *Alma Mater*." Later these efforts were revitalized by a committee formed in 1898 for the establishment of district alumni associations.

The crowds that converged in Gettysburg for special festivities during Commencement Week 1882 brought with them the largest numbers of returning graduates that Pennsylvania College had known. After the annual meeting, over five hundred alumni gathered for an outdoor collation prepared by ladies from town. To complete this celebration of the Semi-Centennial of Pennsylvania College, the alumni swelled the throngs of people that strolled on the campus, lit by lanterns and torches for a promenade concert.

During the early years of the College, the names and addresses of all graduates were printed in the annual catalog. This listing served as a form of advertising. Attempts to survey Pennsylvania College alumni revealed that about half of them entered the ministry; others became lawyers, teachers or administrators in public schools, businessmen, physicians, professors or presidents in colleges and universities. Their concerns as a constituency of the College were voiced through the alumni association that changed in both name and structure in the course of time. Under its auspices, alumni pushed for formal representation on the Board of Trustees—accomplished 1886—and urged that the name of the institution be changed to Gettysburg College—enacted 1921.

The annual meetings of the association were predominantly social affairs where motions and ideas were often passed in joviality and high spirits. During the Twenties, concerned graduates voiced the need for a clearinghouse for alumni affairs. They urged the College to follow the pattern of other institutions and appropriate funds for a full-time alumni administrator and a publication to enhance communication and unity among the increasing number of Gettysburgians.

In 1929 a young man from the class of 1925 was appointed by the College as Alumni Secretary. Genial and beaming, Charles Beachem set about the huge job of organizing an alumni office with energy and interest and, in the process, endeared himself to those he met. During his college days Beachem had been a chemistry major, a member of the football team, a brother in SAE fraternity. He had entered the teaching profession and quickly became a high school principal. The alumni office under his direction opened in 1930 in Weidensall Hall. There he began handling arrangements for Homecoming and worked with classes in planning reunions for Commencement Week. The annual alumni banquet now became a traditional collation for Saturday noon and for the first time was opened to wives.



Charles Beachem

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

Gettysburgians received the first issue of the magazine known among them as “the *Alumni Bulletin*.” Through its pages alumni were informed about campus events, the progress of the College, and news of their classmates. By reading the *Bulletin* they kept up to date on the concerns of the Alumni Council, formed in 1930 to establish policies and to regulate activities. In 1933 the *Bulletin* carried updates on the first Loyalty Fund and informed the College constituencies of the efforts of the class agents and the final success of the drive, which reached \$3,556 with 586 contributors.

The alumni office played an important part in preparations for the Centennial celebration in 1932. Financial support was encouraged from alumni as Centennial patrons. Orders from Gettysburgians were placed for Centennial china depicting Pennsylvania Hall, Glatfelter Hall, Plank Gymnasium, or Weidensall Hall set in a Wedgewood pattern of blue, mulberry, or rose-pink. Nearly 1600 alumni returned for the special events during Commencement Week. Some of them participated in the Alumni Walk led by President Henry W.A. Hanson from building to building to hear distinguished alumni speak on subjects appropriate to the disciplines represented by each structure. The event was climaxed with a speech by the President as alumni gathered on the campus, bright with illuminated buildings and the glow of hundreds

of colored lights strung from tree to tree. Reservations for Alumni Day had piled in, and reunions crowded restaurants in town, church social rooms, and private homes. More than three thousand jammed the alumni dance held in Eddie Plank Gymnasium.

Three years later, the collation of 1935 marked the 100th anniversary of the Alumni Association. The significance of the occasion was commemorated by a bronze tablet placed on the south portico of Pennsylvania Hall in recognition of the event and the eleven founders of the organization. In that same year the College became officially a coeducational institution.

There were those who commented that the pioneering work in alumni relations at Gettysburg College had become history and that now there remained the challenge of developing the territory that had been explored and surveyed. The untimely death of Charles Beachem in 1937 underscored this statement. Responding in shock and sadness at the loss of Beachem's enthusiasm and vitality, Dr. Milton H. Valentine, Class of 1882, wrote in appreciation: ". . . the Alumni Association of Gettysburg College is his monument. It remains as the enduring witness that he has lived, labored, conquered and achieved. . . . To whatever proportions the Alumni Association may grow, however efficient it may become in the lengthening history of the College, down at the base, as the substratum of it all, will be the life and work of Charles W. Beachem." The Loyalty Fund of 1937 had been designated for the construction of a north portico for Pennsylvania Hall to mark the 100th anniversary of that building. In recognition of Charles Beachem's contribution, this portico was dedicated to his memory; the passerby can read the inscription on a bronze plaque.

Charles Beachem began the overwhelming job of organizing an alumni office for Gettysburg College with the part-time help of a Gettysburg High School senior. Her name was Rosea Armor. Together they set up systematic, continuing records of 3400 former students. After graduation from high school in 1930, Rosea joined the Alumni Office on a full-time basis. It was the beginning of a legend—Rosea—whose career spanned forty-seven years with contacts and acquaintances among Gettysburgians of all ages, with firsthand experiences in arrangements for gatherings and class reunions and banquets. It was Rosea who provided the hardcore office management and the backbone of transition for a succession of eight alumni administrators. Former assistant professor of mathematics, Paul Cessna '15, commented, "I came over to help Rosea when Charlie Beachem died and I'm still helping her after all these years." When Paul Cessna assumed the post of alumni secretary in 1937, he began working with a roster of 4,895 living alumni and fourteen alumni clubs. Near the completion of his twenty years of service in 1958 there were 8,498 alumni on the mailing list, and activities were scheduled for thirty-one clubs. During those years the annual Loyalty Fund increased from \$3,566 to \$82,000.

In 1944 the Alumni Association presented the Alumni Meritorious Service Medal to Paul Cessna as a symbol of their respect and admiration for a man whose



Rosea Armor

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

inspiration and drive was the motivating force for the success of the loyalty fund campaigns and the growth of the Association. Serving the College also as photographer, publicity agent, public speaker, co-manager of the bookstore, and forager and manager of supplies for the dining service during the scarcity of rations in the war years, Paul Cessna made many friends among the alumni. Near the end of his career, one of them reflected that “the peculiar distinction of Paul Cessna lay in the fact that he always cooperated, and that he always did it with princely graciousness and style.” Several months before his death in 1958, alumni gathered at their annual banquet to pay tribute to the quality of his life.

For brief periods, the alumni office was under the direction of Dr. Harold Dunkleberger '36, (1958-60); Robert L. Kunes '40, (1957-58); Howard Maxwell '52 (1960-62); and J. Crist Hoffman '64, (1971-72).

After a move in 1962 from the former ATO fraternity house on North Washington Street to the Eddie Plank Gymnasium that provided not only more office space but also a lounge for visitors, the alumni office welcomed Richard E. Walker '37, who began his duties as director in February 1963. His years of experience in business management and sales, his communication skills in adult education and coaching, and his relationship with Sigma Chi Fraternity had helped Dick Walker to develop his extraordinary talent of being able to relate to all types of people and to make the visitors to his office, or the alumni he met while traveling, feel comfortable under any circumstances. With warm outreach he stimulated alumni support, worked closely with the clubs, and encouraged service on the part of graduates to their *alma mater*. The Board of Fellows, composed of dedicated alumni, was formed in 1965 under his guidance to provide another base of institutional support in addition to the Board of Trustees.

Today the Office of Alumni Relations touches base with 17,651 living alumni, helps coordinate the activities of sixty classes, enhances the programs of twenty-one organized clubs, and continues to plan the schedule of events for Homecoming and Alumni Day. Outreach has expanded since 1972 under the vigorous direction of Robert D. Smith '59, former soccer and swim coach. The thrust has been to inform and interest graduates and to strengthen their commitment to Gettysburg College by providing meaningful programs that encourage their return to campus. Bob Smith has extended a spirit of cordiality and friendly informality that reaches alumni of all ages and makes them feel at ease and at home. His efforts in working currently with over one thousand volunteers have welcomed young alumni into activities and have made old grads know that they are important to their *alma mater*.

By administrative decision, the responsibility for the Annual Loyalty Fund was shifted to the Development Office in 1977, thereby freeing the Office of Alumni Relations for the work of planning, publicity, and personal contact involved in strengthening ties and making friends. Within this framework the graduates who are active in alumni affairs enhance the admissions process and provide support for the development team. They forge new links in the long chain of sons and daughters who, through the years, have worked together to keep the Alumni Association a vital organization, a source of loyalty and support for Gettysburg College, and a trust for those first eleven who dared to dream.

A Place of Their Own: The Emergence of Women at Gettysburg College

[Originally published January 1989]

Thoughtfully she gazes from her world, captured in a moment in time. She stands with her family gathered in their garden courtyard on a summer day. The simple lines of her dress, the dark accents at waist and collar, and the touch of ruffles lend her figure grace and charm. Her name was Beulah Tipton. And as she appeared in this nineteenth century photograph, so must she have looked when she took her seat in the classrooms of Pennsylvania Hall in the fall of 1888—the first woman to matriculate at Pennsylvania College, one woman among 135 male students.

We know little about her life. As the eldest child of W.H. Tipton, Gettysburg's well-known photographer, Beulah may have been encouraged to pursue her studies by her father to fulfill the desire for the formal education which time and circumstances had denied him. But after a year and a half Beulah withdrew from college because of illness and somehow never managed to return. Nine years later, on June 14, 1899, she married James Cannon from Allegheny City. Their life together was spent in Oakmont, a suburb of Pittsburgh.

As early as 1873 the trustees of Pennsylvania College had considered a resolution to open its preparatory department to both sexes. In 1875, in response to the resolution that the trustees did not “deem it expedient to open the Institution to the admission of female pupils,” Dr. Charles A. Hay, trustee and professor at the seminary, offered the following motion: “Resolved, that if application shall be made by females for admission to the College classes, the faculty shall be permitted to admit them if properly qualified.” His effort lost, however, to a substitute motion in the negative.



Members of the Tipton family at their home on Chambersburg Street. Bess (left), W.H. Tipton (father), Charles, Esther, Elizabeth (mother), and Beulah, the first woman to matriculate at Pennsylvania College.

Courtesy of Adams County Historical Society.

Yet as sentiment for coeducation increased, it seemed appropriate that the College should begin by initiating educational opportunities for women in its preparatory school. The Board of Trustees deferred the decision to the faculty, who passed a motion in the affirmative on June 27, 1883. Nine women students entered the preparatory department in the fall of 1883. Beulah Tipton was among them. It was a beginning.

The young ladies proved themselves to be apt pupils, and the Board of Trustees was faced with the dilemma of what to do if one of these women should apply for admission to the College. Dr. Hay consequently reintroduced his motion two more times. It passed on June 26, 1885: "Resolved that young ladies sufficiently prepared to enter Departments of the College be admitted under such regulations as the Faculty may prescribe." The door had opened, and Beulah Tipton was the first woman to walk through it.

The honor of being the first woman graduate of Gettysburg College belonged to another young woman, however. In the fall of 1889, Cora Hartman, a student from the Preparatory Department, entered the College as a member of the freshman class—one woman among sixty men; her college attendance was interrupted and she later became a member of the class of 1894. Reflecting on her college days in an article in the *Gettysburg Mercury*, May 1898, Cora recalled that "at that time the reception of women was new, an experiment in fact, and not a few men were opposed to the measure; the upper class men were most noticeable."

"The professors certainly showed no favorites," she recalled in an interview with the *Gettysburgian* in 1943. There were, in addition to the President, eight faculty members at Pennsylvania College when Cora Hartman was a student. "They expected the girls to work just as hard as the boys. Most of the boys were very nice to us. Of course, there were a few who didn't want us." Of the women, she often remarked: "We were tolerated; we were day pupils."

Most of Cora Hartman's time was spent in learning. She studied seven languages: Latin, Greek, Hebrew, German, French, Anglo-Saxon, Old English. Her extra curricular activities included attending the meetings and orations of the Philomathean Society, (opened to women in 1892) and public lectures and concerts in Brua Chapel. She recalled: "There were no dances or social affairs. . . . The boys spent their spare time standing on Eckert's corner of the square. The professors gathered at Buehler's Drug Store, while the girls' student body scattered to their homes or boarding houses."

The Pitzer House at 143 Chambersburg Street maintained high standards and adhered strictly to temperance. There Cora Hartman had her room and took her meals. The boarding house also provided accommodations for sometimes more than twenty College and Seminary men students. Each Friday night Cora Hartman returned home for the weekend to the village of Mummasburg in a horse and buggy driven by her father. When he was occupied with farm work, she drove the horse herself, keeping it in the stable of the Pitzer house, or walked the five miles to Gettysburg.

Cora had entered the preparatory department in 1888 directly from the one-room school in Mummasburg. As a College student, she was required by her father to keep an itemized account of every cent she spent, for it was he who paid \$14-\$20 per term for her tuition as well as her room and board.

Commencement on June 21, 1894, was held outdoors in front of Pennsylvania Hall. Cora Hartman wore a white dress made by her mother from fifteen yards of China silk. It later became her wedding dress. On June 18, 1895, Cora Hartman and Harvey Berkey '92 exchanged marriage vows, and Cora Hartman became a pastor's wife. Her new husband had just graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg. Together the Berkeys contributed twenty-six years of service to the Lutheran church. After retirement in 1921, they chose to return in 1924 to Gettysburg, the town they had known in their youth. There Cora Berkey, widowed for thirty-six years, resumed an absorbing concern for the life of the College, the activity of the church, and the welfare of the community. When she died on April 24, 1969, she was Gettysburg College's oldest surviving graduate.

Following Cora Hartman in alphabetical sequence, Margaret Himes also received her diploma from Pennsylvania College as a member of the class of 1894. Margaret is listed first under honors of the first grade on the 1894 commencement program. Cora Hartman Berkey remembered her classmate as a brilliant, talented young woman who possessed an inclination to write poetry.

The daughter of John A. Himes, professor of English language and literature, Margaret was also the granddaughter of Charles Hay, who had been influential in pressing for the admission of women to Pennsylvania College. From early childhood she had delighted in composing poems. As a student at Pennsylvania College she contributed her literary skills to the *Spectrum* by serving as an associate editor. Her classmate Julius Seebach, assistant editor, later became her husband following his graduation from the Lutheran Theological Seminary. Margaret Himes Seebach was recognized for her involvement in the church as editor of *Lutheran Woman's Work* for many years. Her composition of words for a hymn entitled "Your Kingdom Come!" is contained in the *Lutheran Book of Worship* used in church services. In 1943 Margaret Himes Seebach was the first alumna to receive an honorary degree from Gettysburg College.

By 1903-04, a total of seventy-six women had entered the college, but only seventeen received degrees. In 1904, College enrollment had reached 179. Twenty-seven of these students were women, including fifteen freshmen. Yet although the decision had been made to admit women, Pennsylvania College did not consider itself a coeducational institution. The status of the women who entered might be compared to that of special students. They attended classes but were not expected to participate fully in the total life of the College. There were no dormitories available to women, and most lived at home or with relatives in town.

In an attempt to provide a social life for themselves, the coeds at Pennsylvania College created their own "good times." An early attempt to enlist the support of the College by asking for a tennis court in 1904 resulted in this response from the faculty: "We cannot accede to the request as the ladies are only 'day students,' and there is no



This photo of Margaret Rebecca Himes, one of first two women to graduate from the College in 1894, was taken during her junior year. She was class poet, an associate editor of the "Spectrum," and listed first under honors of the First Grade on the 1894 Commencement program. She later married Julius Frederick Seebach, Class of 1894, and an 1897 graduate of the Lutheran Theological Seminary. Her classmates described her thus: "Our class was rough, our boys were wild, /Ere she beamed on us with poetic smiles."

Courtesy of Adams County Historical Society.

proper place on the campus to assign them for the purpose asked.” From the *Gettysburgian*, May 1913, we know that the women got together in their own groups: “The coeds had a picnic on Round Top last week. They call themselves The Amdoelmasa Lunching Club. This club lunches biweekly.”

The first secret society for women at the College met in 1905, with the formation of a local group, Iota Lambda Delta. To promote their social life and to gain cohesiveness, the women students were active in two early sororities: Beta Lambda, organized in 1916 and later nationalized as Beta Lambda Chapter of Delta Gamma in 1939, and Gamma Phi, founded in 1923 and known by 1937 as Tau Delta Chapter of Chi Omega, the first national sorority on campus.

In 1920 an editor of the *Gettysburgian* noted: “The need of a woman’s organization in Pennsylvania College has long been felt but no steps in this direction have ever been taken until Wednesday afternoon, September the 22nd. Every co-ed was present in Brua Chapel where discussion took place as to the need of a women’s organization in college, and as it was desirous that this organization be inter-collegiate, a Y.W.C.A. was chosen.” In response to a petition from the women students, the faculty granted recognition of this group as a campus organization. The coeds decided that the emphasis was to “be laid upon improving the spiritual, the physical, and the social advantages of women on campus.” As their first activity the group practiced the College songs, learned the College yells, and dressed in G-sweaters to cheer the football team to victory.

Although female enrollment at Gettysburg increased from twenty-three in 1920 to eighty by 1925, women were still not considered an integral part of campus life. The coeds had as their own place a small room near the stairs in the lobby of Glatfelter Hall. Known as the “Cigar Box,” it offered only enough space to accommodate coats, books, or bag lunches. As most organizations on campus had been formed in the interest of men students, the women took initiative in organizing their own activities—a glee club, a basketball team, a rifle team.

The presence of women students did become an important element for consideration when casting productions for the dramatic club, founded in 1913 and later known as Owl and Nightingale. Many of the coeds enjoyed their roles on stage and still look back with fond memories to the fun and excitement of the plays.

To initiate new women students to campus life, the coeds formed their own Tribunal in 1925 to enforce freshman customs. This tribunal functioned while the morning chapel services were in session—a time when the women had the campus to themselves. The *Gettysburgian* reported: “For practically the first time on record the girl students are attempting to identify themselves with some of the traditions of the institution.”

In December 1926 the coeds petitioned the faculty that they be allowed to attend the morning services in Brua Chapel. In discussing this proposal the *Gettysburgian* noted: “The coeds here are slowly but surely coming to the point of their being recognized as one of the many groups on the campus who take part in the development of the future welfare of the college.” The request to attend chapel was granted, and the women were allowed to sit in the unused balcony, which they cleaned.

Periodically, the student body debated the possibility of establishing coeducation at Pennsylvania College. An editor of the *Gettysburgian* in 1923 expressed some

sentiments regarding the issue: "What shall be the fate of co-education at Gettysburg College? This vital question is troubling the Board of Trustees, it is engaging the attention of the faculty, arousing every patron of the institution, and exciting interest among each member of the student body. It is of such immediate interest that the sophomore and junior debating teams have selected it as the subject of their championship debate." The debate continued among the College constituencies. Finally, in December 1923, the trustees reached a decision. No admittance to women would be granted after 1926-27. The cut-off date was later extended to 1929, in the hope that a Lutheran college for women would be established.

But the tide would change as times changed. By September 1929 student enrollment at Gettysburg College had peaked at 622. A month later the stock market crashed, and the nation plunged into the worst economic crisis in its history. By 1932 enrollment had dropped to 532, and in 1934 it reached a low of 480. Families had become economically crippled, and it had become increasingly difficult for many of the students to remain in college. The class of 1933 contained nine women graduates, the last of the group that had matriculated in 1929.

Continued strain on the economy brought the College to the realization that the admission of women students could help stabilize the enrollment. Thus, action was authorized by the Board of Trustees at a special meeting on April 4, 1935, to convert the preparatory school located in Stevens Hall and Huber Hall into facilities for women. The Gettysburg Academy, popularly known as "Prep," closed its doors in May 1935.

Coeducation at Gettysburg College had finally become a reality. The headlines of the *Gettysburgian* blared: "College to Accept Co-Eds." Former editor Henry W. Snyder '37 wrote two years later:

We got the tip-off on Tuesday night and two of us sat up until 4 o'clock the next morning clearing everything off the desk in order that what we considered the story of the century might be run through in good style the next day. Three-column head and full-page streamer were both written at 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, and we spent Wednesday evening making up the paper, tense at the thought that suspicions were already creeping out on the campus, and at the same time praying that the Board of Trustees would come through on Thursday morning, for the type had already been set for coeducation at Gettysburg.

By September 1935, fifty-five women were enrolled in a student body of 524. The Board of Trustees specified that the number of women should not exceed 150 during an academic year, a quota reached in 1937. Huber Hall, renovated for its new role, echoed with the sound of girlish laughter in the halls, the buzz of dorm meetings, the shrieks and yells from Halloween parties in the attic, or the joyful notes of caroling in the parlor. In 1936, one year later, Stevens Hall was remodeled to accommodate women. Together these two dormitories formed the Women's Division, known informally as the "W.D." The name itself indicated a separateness felt by the women until the decrease in the enrollment of men in Gettysburg College during World War II enabled them to take a more assertive role in campus activities.

Housemothers supervised dormitory life and cooperated with a resident Lutheran deaconess, Sister Nora McCombs, in matters concerning residential life. The position, Dean of Women, was established in 1941 following the retirement of Dr. Charles H. Huber, former headmaster of the Academy and head of the Women's

Division. The new post was held briefly by Elizabeth Connelly; Dean Dorothy Lee was appointed in 1942. Integration of men and women in the process of creating a truly coeducational institution took place gradually. The presence of women students on campus changed the complexion of the social life; encouraged an improvement of male habits in dress, speech, and behavior; and challenged the academic standards for excellence.

Equality for women students, however, was slow in coming. In 1937, a coed wrote to the *Gettysburgian*:

When more than just passably adequate living conditions have been provided for the women's division of the college, when ALL of the professors can be said to respect the interest, intelligence and abilities of the women students, when co-eds succeed in electing one of their number to Student Council and are more considered in the choices of various committees, when certain revisions of the curricula have been made to satisfy the average girl's needs and desires, when we are treated as the equal of the men students in maturity and common sense and are freed from a few of a maze of rules and regulations—then co-eds will have been fully accepted at Gettysburg College.

Such equality came only in the future. In the 1960s, when students at Gettysburg and colleges throughout the nation began identifying with social issues, demands were made that students have greater opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the process of their own education. Between 1968 to 1970, student activism reached its peak, and during those years rumblings regarding women's rights grew louder. In January 1969 demands for equality for women were once again aired by students in the *Gettysburgian*:

Since the issue of equal rights and fair judgment has become campus controversy, we feel it is necessary to again raise the question of widespread discrimination against women.

The responsibility for this discriminatory policy rests with the administration, with a few tradition-bound trustees, and with the apathy of the majority of women on campus . . . Only by granting men and women equal rights can the college move toward a more progressive living situation. . . .

One month later, on February 25, 1969, 269 women students signed a statement addressed to the Board of Trustees concerning issues that had been raised on campus since the early sixties. It read:

The women of Gettysburg College wish to call to your attention the discriminatory policy to which the college adheres.

Women have curfews; men do not. We all want equal rights.

Single women may not live off campus; men may. We all want equal rights. Reconsider the new women's dormitory.

Women must sign out of dormitories; men do not. We all want equal rights.

Women do not have any alternative to eating in the cafeteria for their sophomore and freshmen years; (fraternity) men do. We all want equal rights.

In response, the administration granted senior women self-limiting hours with parental approval. In protest over the limited decision, over four hundred students staged a sleep-in demonstration in the Student Union Building. The administration suspended classes for two days to engage trustees, faculty, administrators, and students in an extended discussion of the issues involved.

The Moratorium, as the conclave of April 15-16 was known, precipitated the formation of the Residential Life Commission to deal with the disparity of rights

and privileges between men and women. As a result of concerted campus efforts and the implications of federal legislation, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, the early 1970s bore witness to considerable change as women students finally achieved a parallel of freedom enjoyed by their male counterparts.

In 1970 the Gettysburg student body was comprised of 1,296 men and 606 women. At the time, the Board of Trustees felt it necessary to confine the enrollment of women to the dormitory capacity provided in Huber and Stevens. Hanson Hall, erected in 1950, provided additional space and testified to the stabilizing effect the entrance of women had on College enrollment during the war years. In 1961 Patrick and Musselman were built. In 1963 the trustees indicated that enrollment of women should not exceed one-third of the student body.

Since the early 1950s, the Dean of Admissions had expressed repeated concern that the existing ratio of men and women resulted in higher academic qualifications for women applicants. He stressed the need that the College apply the same standards of admission for both men and women. When it became apparent in the early 1970s that the quota for women was a factor in the acceptance of men students who were academic risks, the faculty and the trustees endorsed a proposal by the Admissions Committee (adopted in 1974) to increase the enrollment of women to 40% (later 50%) and to apply the same standards for admission to both sexes. In 1980 the student body contained 963 men and 974 women. As Gettysburg College convened its 156th year in 1988, the enrollment of women has reached 1,081 in a student body containing 967 men.

One hundred years ago Beulah Tipton took her place in the halls and classrooms of Pennsylvania Hall—one woman among 125 men students. It seems appropriate, and marvelously coincidental, that in this anniversary year of 1988 Gettysburg College has opened a women's center and completed its search for a coordinator of women's studies—a significant step as women on campus continue to shape a place of their own.

75 Years...and Forward! A Salute to the Woman's General League

[Originally published August 1986]

As the delegates and members of the Woman's General League return to campus for their annual convention on November 6, it will be a very special "homecoming." 1986 signals the seventy-fifth anniversary of the organization of this amazing auxiliary of dedicated women who have lent their untiring efforts and loyal support to Gettysburg College, undergirding its programs and facilities with total contributions that have reached almost three-quarters of a million dollars. To review their records—to puzzle over the old minute books and page the scrapbooks and search the folders—in the archives of Musselman Library is like taking a trip across the decades and sensing the heartbeat of activity that accelerates as the history of Gettysburg College takes shape.



The first convention of the General League, Gettysburg College, November 2, 1911.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

The photographs in the scrapbooks are filled with faces—women in convention; presidents and leaders; members at banquets and teas; women making presentations. One begins to realize that the Woman's League is people, people who have made a difference. Although the fashions have changed and the hairstyles are different, the women involved in the League today have captured the strong spirit and contagious enthusiasm of their predecessors.

From the beginning, the members of the Woman's General League possessed a sense of their own history, saving for those who would follow them a careful record of programs and photographs; placecards, favors, and menus; newspaper articles,

brochures, reports, and minutes. At a meeting of the League's executive committee on November 21, 1911, the chairperson presented a "history" of the origin of the newly-formed group, and the members voted to have the minutes of their first convention printed as a record of the "history in full of the movement."

The spark of enthusiasm generated by women joining together in support of Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg was ignited by Mary Gingrich Stuckenberg, widow of John Henry Wilburn Stuckenberg, distinguished Lutheran theologian, lecturer, and author. In her conversations with President Samuel Hefelbower, Mrs. Stuckenberg not only negotiated the terms of her husband's bequests to Pennsylvania College, but she also became involved in discussion of its needs as an institution of Christian higher education. Mary Stuckenberg believed that Lutheran women could organize to help church colleges just as they worked together to support foreign missions. Her responsibilities as the first president of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the Lutheran Church, her active participation in the Women's Christian Temperance Union on both national and international levels, and her success in canvassing for funds for the American Church in Berlin gave her the experience and confidence for her new undertaking. At her suggestion, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, Mary Stuckenberg traveled at her own expense to strategic Lutheran congregations in areas from which the College drew most of its students. Her appeal stressed the need for funds to establish a position for a secretary to direct the activities of the Y.M.C.A. on campus and to assist in student recruitment. A total of \$1900 was raised, and the position was opened in 1909 to develop Christian leadership among the young men at Pennsylvania College.

Mrs. Henry W.A. Hanson, president of the General League (1920-1923), recalled her impressions of the gracious and charming Mrs. Stuckenberg: "Her personal magnetism; the fervor with which she presented the cause; the power she had of making others courageous, gripped the succession of little groups of women to whom she communicated her vision."

At first, contributions were made through subscription cards. As the idea caught hold, groups of women formed leagues in areas where support was strongest: York (1908); Pittsburgh (1908); Harrisburg (1909). In recognition of the activity of these groups, later known as sub-leagues, the Board of Trustees of Pennsylvania College passed a resolution in 1910 which indicated that "the plans for the extension of this work for the benefit of Pennsylvania College and the organization of similar new Leagues in the new localities meet with the hearty approval of the Board of Trustees. . . ." The women responded with a resolution of their own . . . "that we proceed to organize a General League of Women which shall be devoted to the financial support and the general advancement of Pennsylvania College."

On January 11, 1911, a group of eleven women met in Gettysburg. Under the effective chairmanship of Mrs. J.W. Richard from Gettysburg, they adopted the resolution and elected provisional officers to proceed with drafting a constitution and by-laws, arranging for a convention, and organizing new leagues. The first convention held on November 2 and 3, 1911, in Brua Chapel was attended by eleven delegates and approximately twelve visitors, representing 467 members. Today the General League is composed of ten sub-leagues, with a total membership of over 2700, as well as over 235 members-at-large. Anyone interested in Gettysburg College may become a member. Beginning in 1973, the League received official representation on the Board of Trustees.

With Mary Stuckenberg as president, the Woman's General League began its history. New leagues sprang up: 1911—Chambersburg, Gettysburg, Philadelphia, Shippensburg; 1912—Washington, D.C., Baltimore. Other groups of women organized later. Some leagues contributed toward the support of the campus Y.M.C.A. general secretary; others donated funds for the chair of English Bible, books for the College library, or scholarships. To focus energies more effectively, the officers of the General League conferred with President Granville in 1915; later the convention adopted a project for all leagues: the goal of funding the erection of a Y.M.C.A. building on campus.

A small tan promotional brochure was printed to show a sketch of the building, accompanied by floor plans. The women rallied to the cause. During the 1916 convention the League president unveiled a marker dedicating the site. League members solicited donors. The names of those who contributed \$1.00 or more were put on a list to be placed in the cornerstone, and the donors received a button announcing "Y.M.C.A. Cornerstone" with College colors. In 1916 the General League began the Golden Book of Memory, the first of these special books inscribed with names; those who gave \$10.00 or more to the building fund could have the name of a departed loved one placed on a separate page of honor. At the end of the war, on Victory Commencement Day—June 11, 1919—the League broke ground. On November 6, 1919, during their convention, the League members marched behind the College band and led the student body to the ceremony of the laying of the cornerstone, which contained memorabilia and the names of 2200 contributors. On Commencement Day, June 23, 1922, before a crowd of over 1200, Mrs. Henry W.A. Hanson, president of the General League, presented the keys of the new building to President Granville. At this dedication ceremony, she spoke for the League:

We could not give this building to you without giving ourselves; for it has our very life within its walls. Therefore, in presenting

it to you, as representatives of Gettysburg College, it carries along with it the love of twenty-five hundred loyal mothers. We earnestly entreat you to guard tenderly the ideals for which it stands; namely, wholesome and clean recreation; second, a broad and far-reaching study of the truths of the Bible; thirdly, the development of the highest moral and spiritual life in those who sojourn within its walls.

The crowd sang the "Alma Mater," by Paul S. Gilbert '22, with music by Fred Reinartz '24. 2500 copies of the words of this new song had been printed on a card with the rousing "Gettysburg League Song." These cards and sheet music of the "Alma Mater" were later sold by the League as part of the campaign for the new building. With the conclusion of the dedication ceremony, the new Y.M.C.A. building, Weidensall Hall, took its place on the campus as the lively center for the religious and social life of students. By 1928 the women of the League cleared their contribution of \$80,292.84 toward construction and furnishings and celebrated the burning of the mortgage.

The success of their efforts prompted the Board of Trustees to involve the



Breaking ground on Victory Commencement Day, June 11, 1919.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

League in planning for coeducation at Gettysburg College by 1935. The League pledged \$20,000 for the renovation of the Academy buildings, Huber Hall and Stevens Hall, as the new Women's Division. For their Silver Anniversary in 1936, the Woman's General League adopted the theme, "A Gift for Girlhood." Small silver collection boxes printed with this slogan were distributed to members. At the 1936 convention the presidents of all the leagues built a Silver Wall of Faith with the unopened boxes on the altar of Brua Chapel.

Continuing their strong interest in the religious life of the College, the leagues provided their support of the general secretary of the Y.M.C.A., a position which later developed into the chaplaincy. They also contributed both efforts and funds as the programs and activities of the campus Y.M.C.A. became the Student Christian Association in an extension of ministry and mission to both men and women students.

On September 18, 1953, Gettysburgians attended the first service in Christ Chapel. Its 140-foot spire reaching skyward reminded the campus community that a dream had finally become a reality. As music blended into worship, those present could remember that the Woman's General League had been part of that dream in providing funds for the organ, designed by Virgil Fox, who was the first to perform at its console. As the Luther window above the chapel balcony picks up the sunlight, it becomes an ongoing reminder of the efforts of the leagues whose contributions it represents.

As the program of the College expanded and the needs and interests of students changed with a changing world, the Woman's General League extended its areas of concern and enlarged its focus to meet the thrust of the academic venture at Gettysburg College. Recognizing the service of the League at its 50th anniversary banquet in 1961, President Carl Arnold Hanson spoke in tribute:

This is a remarkable occasion. This is an event which celebrates a half century of service which has been of high purpose, selfless, and of unstinting character. This meeting provides the opportunity to give the fullest possible recognition to an organization and its members for acts of devotion and dedication which have helped to make possible the task of the college. . . .

The Woman's League of Gettysburg College assembled in its 50th annual convention should know that this college which has been the beneficiary of this magnificent effort is deeply and profoundly grateful. I would have you know that in almost every part of this campus one finds material evidence of your contributions.

Looking back one can find that evidence in abundance. . . . The establishment of a music department at Gettysburg College in 1951 was undergirded with support from the Woman's General League with \$50,000 plus an additional \$85,000 six years later to bring the project of remodeling Brua Hall to completion. The League provided the first robes of the College Choir, formed in 1935. In more recent years music students and members of the College band and orchestra have had increased opportunities through instruments purchased from League funds. The new Student Union Building, completed in 1959, was furnished from a \$50,000 gift from the League, followed years later by funds for refurbishing the lounges. During the restoration of Pennsylvania Hall in 1969, the League pledged \$25,000 for the remodeling of the rotunda. Other buildings undergoing change have benefited from League projects: Glatfelter Hall—departmental reception rooms; Dining Hall—re-decoration;

Schmucker Hall—recital hall lobby; Brua Hall—faculty offices. Students in the infirmary have read magazines, enjoyed flowers, and kept warm under blankets provided by League funds. In 1983 the League established an endowment fund scholarship of \$10,000.

During their golden anniversary year, 1961, the League members pledged \$60,000 for furnishings for newly-remodeled Schmucker Memorial Library. Their generosity continued with gifts amounting to \$6,000 as Musselman Library reached completion in 1981. In presenting the plans for the new library, James H. Richards, College librarian, spoke during the 1976 convention about the role of the League in helping to make the library a reality as a vital part of the academic experience at Gettysburg:

I'd like to suggest that this represents the spirit of the 'Gettysburg idea,' which I will define as total commitment to the attainment of quality, respect for the worth of the individual, accomplishment through teamwork, and achievement by orderly processes. Among these phrases the key word is COMMITMENT. The part accepted by the Woman's General League of Gettysburg College illustrates how every segment of the Gettysburg community shares this commitment and makes the Gettysburg idea a unique and wonderful thing. You play an important role in an enterprise of great significance to Gettysburg College and because you are a part of a fine team, dedicated to quality in education achieved through orderly processes, the power of your efforts will be magnified for generations of young people yet to come.

The activities of the Woman's General League of Gettysburg College received national recognition in 1960 by the publishers of *Who's Who in America*. The League was the recipient of a citation for exceptional educational philanthropy in gifts to Gettysburg College. The text of the citation was printed in the 1960-61 edition of this reference source. Included with an overview of League projects is this comment: "Few colleges can boast similar support by such an auxiliary body."

The financial support of the members of the League is not comprised of large contributions by wealthy donors. From the beginning of their history, their gifts have been given by people working together in small ways . . . through bazaars and bake sales; concerts, festivals, and plays; socials and suppers; teas, movies, rummage sales, and other sales; individual donations. The Golden Books—books of Honor, Service, Memory, Jewels, Youth, Anniversaries, and Special Gifts—have become a way to pay tribute to family and friends with full contributions returning to the League and, in turn, to Gettysburg College.

In the League newsletter, *Highlights*, which began publication in 1952, Mrs. Frederick J. Eckert, president of the Woman's General League (1950-1953), wrote in January 1953:

. . . most members don't 'make' money—they give it; they're not primarily interested in constructing buildings, but in fashioning attitudes; they're not chiefly concerned with equipping dorms or chapel, but in the furnishings of the spirit; they don't convene just to hear speeches and reports, but rather to have another look at the College they work for and the young men and women on campus. . . .

Like their predecessors, the women of the League provide continued support to the religious life of Gettysburg College through the chapel program and its outreach to the College community. In addressing the 1977 convention of the Woman's General League, Chaplain Karl Mattson commented:

The task of a liberal arts education in general . . . is to be the leaven in the loaf. Leaven is a living force meant to permeate the whole loaf, a substance meant to make the loaf more palatable. . . .

. . . . College is for dreaming. Men become what they dream. The goodness of the future is determined by the quality of present aspiration and dreaming. Dreamers of exalted dreams of human community will inevitably be leaven in the loaf.

In Weidensall Hall the warm, kind eyes of Mary Stuckenberg look down from her lovely portrait on the wall—a witness that the quality of the future is determined by the dreams of the past and a reminder for us to say, “Thank you!” to scores of women who joined together during seventy-five years to help Gettysburg College provide “leaven in the loaf.”

From the Album of Our Yesterdays Gettysburg: The Last Reunion of the Blue and Gray

[Originally published October 1988]

The summer of '38! Gettysburgians who remember it now reclaim it with nostalgia from the excitement and enchantment of their youth. They remember the old soldiers and the stories they told on the wooden streets or in the canvas tents, that rose and multiplied until they formed a city all their own. They remember the smiling face of a President who symbolized hope and opportunity when times were tough in the years of their growing up. They remember the summer of '38 as an unforgettable piece of living history set aside with fond memories in the album of their yesterdays.

For weeks the excitement had built up in town as construction crews labored on the reunion site. Trainloads of supplies arrived, and a tented city rose from the earth. As months of preparation drew to a close, anticipation of what Gettysburg residents called “The Big Time” reached a peak.

In response to an article, “Were You There?”, written as a query in the April 1987 issue of *Gettysburg*, alumni replied with letters conveying interest, enthusiasm, and unforgettable memories. For many, the most

memorable moment occurred on July 3, when they caught a glimpse of President Roosevelt as his motorcade moved up the Mummasburg Road to the reverberation of a twenty-one-gun salute and stopped at the site of the new peace monument.

Assisted by his attendants, Franklin Delano Roosevelt mounted the speakers' platform. A tremendous cheer rose from the great crowd, packed shoulder-to-shoulder—a sea of faces that stretched over an expanse of forty acres. An estimated three



Confederate Street

Courtesy of the National Archives

hundred thousand had gathered on Oak Hill that day, July 3, 1938, in jubilation and expectation to greet the President and to be present for the dedication of the Eternal Light Peace Memorial, the climatic event of the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

The enormous crowd began coming before dawn. As day broke bright and clear, a steady stream of humanity trudged up the hill with folding chairs and picnic lunches in anticipation of the long wait. Some were lucky enough to secure lodging in Gettysburg, but many had been turned away. The town was packed, and rooms in hotels, tourist homes, and boarding houses were filled to several times their capacity. Streets were gaily decorated with flags and bunting and jammed with automobiles. Vendors selling souvenirs and refreshments joined the crowds and competed with proprietors of food stands for a landslide business. Enterprising college students eager to make some spending money set up stands near the route of the President's motorcade.

Ellis Derry '39 and his fraternity brothers Vernon (Pikey) Ness '39 and Willard George '38 approached the trustees of Tau Kappa Epsilon for permission to run a hot dog stand on a lot owned by the fraternity east of Eddie Plank Gym. Permission was granted with the stipulation that they also manage the space as a parking lot.

Ellis described their venture:

Times were not too prosperous in those days, and the three of us had to come up with the cash in advance to buy the lumber for the stand and to buy all the necessary food supplies. . . . We decided we had to come up with \$15.00 each! That was big money for college kids to gamble in those days.

Before the main events got underway we had plenty of competition. There was a stand on each of the other three corners. . . . The crowds started coming. Whereas, all week we had been selling a bottle of coke for a nickel. . . we quickly had to change our signs to read ten cents! . . . We then found it necessary to hire some of our fraternity brothers to run the parking lot for us. By the weekend things were really getting busy, and we could hardly keep up with the demand for hot dogs and coke. . . . Our profits far exceeded our wildest dreams. . . . We were almost overrun by the crowds. . . .

On the nine roads that led into town, traffic crept almost bumper-to-bumper on July 3. By 2:00 p.m. Pennsylvania Motor Police diverted all vehicles ten miles from town, leaving an estimated one hundred thousand persons stranded somewhere en-route. Frederick K. Wentz '42 recalls parking cars on land owned by the Lutheran Theological Seminary.

The most important guests arrived in town well in advance of the crowds. On June 29 a cluster of camp attendants eagerly awaited the arrival of the first train bearing Civil War veterans as it pulled into town at 5:07 a.m. Throughout the day eighteen more trains arrived, unloading at a platform constructed for the Reading Railroad at the end of West Lincoln Avenue or at the Western Maryland station on Carlisle Street.

Each veteran was accompanied by his own personal attendant and assisted by Pennsylvania National Guardsmen and Boy Scouts. A contingent of 192 Boy Scouts chosen from forty-seven troops in the area were on duty during the reunion to provide special service during encampment.

On duty as a Boy Scout from Troop 21 in West York, Harry Diehl '48 remembered: "We walked the veterans holding onto our arms, or pushed them in

wheelchairs and generally aided in getting the veterans around and in crowd control. But mostly, we listened and observed a living history and were inspired by what we saw and heard.”

By the end of the day 1,845 veterans had arrived—1,359 who had worn the Union Blue and 486 once dressed in Confederate Gray. They had come to open their last camp, these old soldiers whose average age was ninety-four. They had come from forty-seven states, the District of Columbia, and Canada. Surprisingly, California took the lead with 150. Texas followed with 130, while Pennsylvania tallied 115 and Ohio 103. Many of the Civil War veterans had enlisted as young boys. Now their ages ranged from 88 to 112. The youngest veteran and the oldest veteran were African Americans. Only a portion of the 1,845 had actually fought in the Battle of Gettysburg—estimates ranged as high as sixty-five. The 1,845 who arrived for the reunion represented those men who were able and willing to travel from among a total of approximately eight thousand remaining Civil War veterans.

As the veterans were seated in a canopied section near the speakers’ stand, many thoughts must have ranged their minds as they waited for the dedication of the Eternal Light Peace Memorial—the highlight of their last reunion. Yet for them, something special had happened at Gettysburg. Although in camp one could hear the words, “Johnny Reb” and “Damn Yankee,” veterans extended hands of friendship across the stone walls where they had fought and across the sectional differences and ingrown prejudices that had divided them.

Their reunion had officially begun with a handshake between Dr. Overton Mennet, national Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, and General John Claypool, national Commander of the United Confederate Veterans. After the veterans returned to camp, it was not the formal speeches of these two men that were discussed but news of the words that passed between them overheard as their quavering hands touched:

Mennet: “I greet you, sir. How do you do?”

Claypool: “Sir, we couldn’t hold anything against each other. Now we belong to the same fellowship.”

Those who visited their camps in the “tented city” to talk with the veterans or to get autographs or take photographs found that the old soldiers were happy to cooperate and that they needed no encouragement to launch into stories of the War. In talking with them, a reporter for the *Philadelphia Record* wrote: “It is a deeply moving experience to hear their stories, to shake their hands. Pale eyes look up confidently. They are watery and have the softness of old velvet.”

Among them was Major General Richard Gellette, 93, from Louisiana. His eyes were bright and his words snapped. He told the press:

We were supporting Pickett’s left and when he charged we went too. There was heavy artillery fire from both sides. The field in front of us looked like ploughed ground where the shells hit—out of the woods on Seminary Ridge came Pickett’s men—their perfect line trampled the new corn on the ground. The cannon found their range. They went down like blackbirds. We could see the peaches in the trees across the field. The corn was knee high . . . it was a hot day and we fought.

George E. Hamilton, 94, from Mercer County, Pennsylvania, was one of six men from a company of sixty-five to reach Gettysburg on the first night of the Battle. He remembered:

We were force marched for 35 miles with eight days rations in our knapsacks and

our pockets full of cartridges. The rest of the boys arrived during the night, and we charged into that historic wheatfield the second day when the smoke was so thick you couldn't see 10 feet in front of you. At night it was so dark you couldn't distinguish Blue from Gray, and boys from both armies drew water from the spring at night without either becoming aware of the other.

Many of the veterans could be found resting in their camp chairs in front of their tents on eight miles of wooden sidewalks that lined the Union and Confederate camps. Here they welcomed visitors, enjoyed giving their autographs, delighted in telling their stories, and even proposed to pretty girls. Visitors to the “tented city” were astounded at the enormous expanse of tents that stretched on both sides of the Mummasburg Road: 486 Confederate tents to the west, their streets assigned by letters, and 1,359 Union tents to the east on numbered streets. Additional tents constructed to accommodate hospital facilities, medical staff, mess halls, kitchen personnel, Pennsylvania Motor Police, military bands, Boy Scouts, and other workers and camp attendants brought the population of the “tented city” to 6805. Breaking the camp site had begun on April 26; by June 23 the crew had grown from 22 to 953 men working seven days a week on a schedule of three shifts.

“Some of the construction work was done by contractors,” John S. Saby '42 informed us, “but site preparation, building of wooden tent platforms, digging latrine pits all had to be done by labor gangs. A hiring office was set up north of Eddie Plank Gym.” Later serving as a Boy Scout during the encampment, John got involved from the beginning. “I was glad to get a job as a laborer for which the government paid about 35 cents an hour. In 1938 at that generous rate there were more applicants than jobs.”

The installation of electric lines, telephone wires, 396 street lights, and water and sewer pipes contributed to the complexity of the construction. Richard C. Guise '35 served as a carpenter's helper during the construction and throughout the period of encampment. One of his jobs was to keep the nails from protruding from the wooden sidewalks. His most unforgettable assignment was to roll out the red carpet for President Roosevelt.

Each veteran and his attendant were assigned a tent and provided with an iron cot and bedding; an electric lamp; an enameled pitcher, wash basin, cabinet, and drinking cup; a bedside rug; two canvas folding chairs; a rubber seat pad; an umbrella; a cane; and a daily newspaper.

The presence of 1,845 elderly gentlemen with dietary restrictions or eating habits that reflected preferences from different regional cuisines taxed the food service to respond with ingenuity and patience. The menus included a total of seventy-three different foodstuffs. The veterans were hearty eaters and several tons of food were consumed each day during the encampment.

Enrolled as a freshman at the Harrisburg Academy for the fall term, Robert Adam Houtz '43 decided to get a job for the summer at the reunion encampment. Hired to work in the Confederate kitchen, Adam recalled: “The kitchen was like one big circus tent with the mess hall tents leading out of it like sprockets of a wheel.



Civil War veterans at the 1938 reunion in Gettysburg.

Courtesy of the National Archives

Each mess hall had cafeteria style serving tables at the kitchen tent. The chefs were professionals from big hotels directing the kitchen staff. The food by our standards was good. The government certainly went first class for this momentous occasion. Our eighteen hour days didn't permit us to see much of the daily activities. . . ."

Temporary medical care for the veterans was provided by the First Medical Regiment from Carlisle Army Barracks and nurses from the Pennsylvania State Department of Health at field hospitals in camp and at first aid stations on the Battlefield.

The veterans toured the Battlefield on city buses provided for the occasion. The influx of tourists and veterans placed heavy demand on licensed Battlefield guides. Thus, Boy Scouts such as John S. Saby '42 and Robert B. Fortenbaugh '44 were pressed into service because of their familiarity with the Field and the Battle. John Saby reflected: "It was a thrilling, though slightly unreal experience to explain the Battle of Gettysburg to attentive busloads of Civil War veterans, some of whom had actually fought at Gettysburg 75 years previously!"

Those Gettysburg residents who had seen a supply of coffins stacked in a railroad car outside the Reading Railway station on Washington Street were reminded that professional estimates indicated that twelve to fifty deaths per thousand could be expected among the Civil War veteran population during the encampment. The old soldiers seemed to thrive on the excitement of their reunion days at Gettysburg and surprised everyone with their sturdy constitutions. Only two veterans died during the reunion; five expired before arriving home.

A large portion of the encampment and much of the reunion activity took place on land owned by Gettysburg College. The College offered its facilities for the use of the Pennsylvania State Commission for the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg and worked closely with the two Gettysburgians most responsible for the implementation, strategic planning, and the resounding success of the event: Paul Roy, Executive Secretary, and Senator John S. Rice '21, Chairman. Mrs. Rice joined her husband in the event as an official hostess along with Mrs. Henry W.A. Hanson, wife of the president of Gettysburg College, and Mrs. George Earle, wife of the governor of Pennsylvania. The wives of distinguished guests were housed in Stevens Hall. The Federal Commission created for the event maintained offices on campus in Glatfelter Hall.

Robert L. Kunes '40 worked for the Federal Commission and had a press credential pass to officially represent the *Gettysburgian* as news editor. "I had the opportunity to roam around anywhere I wanted during the construction of the Blue and Gray encampment," he recalled, "talking with many vets during the days of the reunion—and, yes, being with the Press section up close to President Roosevelt on the day he dedicated . . . the Eternal Light Peace Memorial. What a thrill!"

Old Dorm, now known as Pennsylvania Hall, again became a hospital ward for Civil War soldiers with beds on the ground floor and nurses' quarters on the second—a link to the field hospitals set up adjacent to it on the campus. Eddie Plank Gymnasium served as an emergency hospital and quarters for the U.S. Army Band. The athletic field outside which had served as the site for the sawmill for camp construction later provided space for the field mass, band drills, and army maneuvers. In organizing the day-to-day needs for equipment and supplies during the reunion, the U.S. Army sent off passenger pigeons every hour to facilitate communication.

The coverage by the press of the last reunion of the Blue and Gray was to become one of the most complete in the history of reporting. No single event for

many years had drawn a larger number of newsmen, cameramen, and radio broadcasters—116 were registered with the Commission. They used McKnight Hall as their headquarters and availed themselves of dark room facilities in Weidensall Hall.

The members of the press increased significantly with the approaching arrival of the President of the United States. At last the long-awaited moment became a reality. The President of the United States addressed the crowd to accept the Eternal Light Peace Memorial on behalf of the American people. He reflected on the present scene and on the significance of this place, where boys clad in blue or butternut once fought in its woods and fields. He spoke of Abraham Lincoln, who had come here and with simple eloquence had immortalized Gettysburg for the generations who would follow. President Roosevelt continued:

The fullness of the stature of Lincoln's nature and the fundamental conflict which events forced upon his Presidency invite us ever to turn to him for help.

For the issue which he restated here at Gettysburg on this spot seventy-five years ago will be the continuing issue before this nation so long as we cling to the purposes for which the nation was founded—to preserve under the changing conditions of each generation a people's government for the people's good.

A hush fell on the crowd. George Lockwood, who wore the Blue, and Absalom G. Harris, who wore the Gray, stepped forward. Together they pulled the cord releasing the draped American flag. The Eternal Light Peace Memorial was unveiled. A tall shaft of veined Alabama limestone, it stood stark against the sky, reaching forty feet above an eleven-foot base. Sculptured on the front in bas-relief, two eight-foot figures in embrace represent peace and goodwill existing between North and South. The presence of an eagle and a laurel wreath complete the symbolism. Inscribed on two sides of the shaft were the words: "With firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right.—Abraham Lincoln" and "An Enduring Light to Guide us in Unity and Fellowship."

A soldier who wore the Blue and a Soldier who wore the Gray ignited the gas jet with a mirror that caught the sun's rays, and the eternal flame burst three feet high from the bronze urn on top of the shaft. The great crowd cheered. As the flame blazed upward, it completed the final touch of symbolism to the monument and sealed the meaning of the words carved on the base: "Peace Eternal in a Nation United."

The monument had become the realization of a dream conceived by the Civil War veterans at their reunion in 1913 during the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. Appropriations from the states of Virginia, New York, Indiana, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Pennsylvania made the memorial possible. Paul P. Cret of Philadelphia and his junior partner, Roy F. Larson, designed the monument engaging Lee Lawrie of New York as sculptor.

The last reunion of the Blue and Gray drew to a close on July 4. In celebration of the birth of the Nation and in honor of the Civil War veterans, the United States Army staged a spectacular series of drills and maneuvers. Mounted units, cavalry troops, and infantry regiments passed in review. The earth shook from the movement of whippet tanks, and the sky overhead was filled with the action and noise of B-17 bombers passing in formation as swarms of attack planes pursued. That night a gigantic display of fireworks lit up Oak Hill. By morning the first train of departing veterans pulled out of Gettysburg at 7:30 a.m. In a few days the wooden sidewalks and the canvas tents were empty of all but memories of the old soldiers who had once again been boys together.

MAY I
INTRODUCE...
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE
PERSONALITIES



*Two Freshmen with borrowed
silk hats, Prince Albert coats,
dude canes, and burnt cork
mustaches, desiring to impress
favorably several far-away
damsels, went to photographer
Tipton to have their manly forms
struck off on tin-types. On their
way thither they were mistaken
for pickpockets. . . .*

Pennsylvania College Monthly, December 1886

The Wondrous World of Michael Jacobs

[Originally published October 1979]

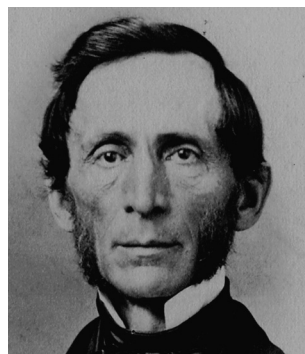
As the sounds of construction penetrate an autumn day and the foundations of Musselman Library/Learning Resources Center take shape against the landscape, one's thoughts are drawn to new beginnings. . . .

Backwards they turn in time to 1834 to the pages of a worn ledger where the handwriting of John G. Morris, secretary, recorded the Board's decision of April 15: "Resolved. That \$500 be expended to the purchase of an incipient College library; and That President Krauth, Prof. Smucker (sic), J.G. Morris be requested to make the Selections." The committee was authorized to borrow the money, and for struggling Pennsylvania College, founded two years before, it was a beginning.

By June the Faculty had set up the library regulations for students. The hours of service were to be confined to Saturdays, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Each student had the right to borrow one large book or two smaller books for one week. To increase security for the valued collection, it was understood that "No student shall be permitted to take any books from the shelves but must apply to the librarian."

For Professor Michael Jacobs, unanimously chosen by his colleagues as the first person to serve as College librarian, the library became an added responsibility in his already heavy schedule as professor of mathematics, chemistry, and natural science. As the collection began to take shape through purchases and gifts, the books occupied his recitation room, and by September the Board appointed a committee to locate a suitable room for the Library. At the meeting of the Trustees on April 23, 1835, John B. McPherson announced that a room had been rented from Professor Jacobs himself at ten dollars a year.

Thus it was that the Library became located at the northwest corner of Washington and Middle Streets, conveniently close to the College building on High Street and under the watchful eye of the librarian. Professor Jacobs had bought the two-story red brick house at sheriff's sale in March 1834, and it was there that he brought Juliana, his bride of a year. It was a solid and commodious dwelling, and he enlarged it through the years so that its fourteen rooms could contain the laughter and activity of the four children who would be born to them and accommodate as



Professor Michael Jacobs

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

well an assortment of relatives who came to live there while attending College or the local school for young ladies. Fences eight feet high enclosed the yard, provided privacy from the street, and sheltered the garden within. In the summer flowers bloomed in profusion. Mrs. Jacobs prided herself especially in the gorgeous roses she grew. The Professor tended the vegetable garden and enjoyed cultivating berry bushes and a large variety of fruit trees.

The students from Pennsylvania College who came to the Jacobs' residence to

borrow books from the Library located to the right of the large front door or to have their recitations heard in the room across the hallway discovered that the Professor who got the books from the shelves and kept the careful records of their circulation was a most unusual man. Of slim build and sensitive visage, he possessed a natural dignity and a gentleness of manner toward other people that attracted their attention. Retiring and unduly modest, he would find himself overcome with embarrassment in the pulpit of the College Church as he faced an expectant congregation when he took his turn there as an ordained Lutheran minister. In the classroom, however, Michael Jacobs came into his own, for there he



This building, located at the northwest corner of West Middle and Washington Streets, housed Gettysburg College's first library. The library was located in the southeast corner room on the first floor of what was then the family residence of Professor Michael Jacobs.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

forgot his shyness, and his keen, analytical mind, his quick perception, and his astute observations took over in the excitement of the learning process.

Those who sat under him as students knew that in Professor Jacobs' recitations room there were no facades and that his penetrating intellect and piercing black eyes saw directly to the heart of the matter. The speed with which he detected an error became the source of legend at Pennsylvania College, for it was said that Professor Jacobs could tell by the sound of the chalk on the blackboard if a student had made a mistake. His own personal library and his concern about the College Library collection reflected the depth and breadth of his scholarly interests. His knowledge and dedication were responsible for the growing reputation Pennsylvania College achieved in the sciences. As the College struggled to survive and grow, Michael Jacobs, through personal sacrifice and ingenuity, acquired and often constructed the apparatus and equipment necessary for laboratory experimentation.

It is through the reminiscences of his eldest son, Henry Eyster Jacobs, that we come to know the Professor best. In his memoirs, *Notes on a Life of a Churchman*, edited by his grandson, Henry Eyster Horn, Henry Jacobs wrote:

As more children came, and my mother was occupied with them, I clung to my father, accompanying him to college, as a visitor to his classes. The physical and chemical experiments enlisted my interest. In the classroom, I picked up much information that became an abiding possession, and was also able occasionally to be of some assistance in his preparation of his experiments. While he studied, I read. When he had field work with classes in Botany, Mineralogy, Geology, or Surveying, I was always with him. When he was grading streets, I would hold the target or help with the tape line.

For the small boy who became his father's constant companion a world of wonder opened as he followed in the 810 steps the mathematician in Michael Jacobs had

meticulously counted as the distance from their home to the College Edifice, later known as Pennsylvania Hall. A special relationship developed between father and son as Henry listened in rapt attention while his father lectured and the College boys recited, as he joined him in his duties as surveyor in charge of improving the streets and sidewalks in town, and as they roamed the fields together in search of wildflowers. Their shared experiences also formed an important part of Henry's education, for his formal schooling did not begin until age nine when he was thrust directly into the Preparatory Department and later entered Pennsylvania College as a freshman at age twelve.

Those who came to know Michael Jacobs realized that it was nature with all its marvels that captivated him most. It seemed that he knew the botanical name of every plant he met and took delight in recognizing a tiny flower that someone else might overlook. As he traveled, his attention was also drawn to stones and rock formations in the countryside, and people frequently sought him out to identify unusual rocks and minerals. At night he scanned the starry universe, and by day he studied the clouds and winds. His neighbors could see him at the windows or on the porch in the midst of thunder and lightning watching the drama of a storm, and his family would find him up most of the night observing any unusual phenomenon in the heavens. His intense interest in the weather led him to introduce meteorology into the curriculum of Pennsylvania College in 1841, making it one of the first institutions of higher learning to offer such a course.

Although the U.S. Weather Bureau was not yet formed, Professor Jacobs sent his monthly meteorological reports to the Smithsonian Institution and the Franklin Institute. His weekly reports on temperature were printed in the Gettysburg newspapers, and the people in town knew that he could also predict changes in the weather conditions with remarkable accuracy.

Michael Jacobs' lively enthusiasm for experimentation ranged throughout the sciences. In 1845 and 1846 his experiments with tomatoes placed him among the first Americans to develop a canning process for fruits and vegetables. This method of preservation in tin cans was shared among his friends, but as he did not attempt to patent the technique, Michael Jacobs did not receive the formal recognition he deserved.

The diversity of his scientific pursuits and the variety of preparations necessary for his many courses at the College, in combination with his uncommon modesty, precluded concentration in a given area with publication in view. However, Michael Jacobs became known as the author of a little book, *Notes on the Rebel Invasion of Maryland and Pennsylvania, and the Battle of Gettysburg*, one of the earliest accounts of the Battle, which he allowed to be published at the urging of family and friends. He had observed the great Battle with the same curiosity and inquiry that he displayed toward the natural world around him, and he was aided in his investigations by his son Henry, then a lad of eighteen.

From the beginning of the war Professor Jacobs had traced the progress of the campaigns as reported in the daily papers on a large map of the Southern states that covered much of his dining room wall. As June 1863 drew to a close, smoke by day and fires by night betrayed the presence of Confederate camps on the mountainsides, and Henry recollected in a series of articles in *The Lutheran*:

From a garret window, in the center of the town, looking directly up the Chambersburg road towards the mountain, we were able, by the aid of a large glass, used by the college for astronomical purposes, to gain the first sight of their approach. Much of the way was hidden by Seminary Ridge, but beyond it, our view commanded a

portion of the road on a higher elevation. First a Union Scout in full retreat, and then a Confederate picket in pursuit came in sight. Soon followed the cavalry, riding at full speed; then the artillery and infantry. It was not long before we heard their cheers as they took possession of the streets. . . .

It was to be one of many observations by father and son from the garret window in their home on Middle Street as they gazed through the College telescope and followed the movements of men and horses.

After the fighting began, the Professor and his family experienced the effects of a battle in progress: the roar of cannon echoing and answering, the rattle of musketry, the tramp of boots, the sulphurous odors that filled the air, the sharp retorts of artillery fire. Later came the rush of orderlies through the streets and the streams of wounded soldiers. During the heavy firing the Jacobs family took refuge in their cellar. The Confederates had taken possession of the town, and a brigade from Georgia held their street.

On the third day after the reverberations of heavy firing slackened, Professor Jacobs could not be persuaded to remain in the cellar. As Henry described:

A few guns are heard, like the bolts of thunder of a retiring storm. My father, from the garret, turned his glass on the Confederate right. He sees on Seminary Ridge a long line of men, forming, supported by another; and, at last, their onward march toward the Federal line. His vision is soon interrupted by intervening houses. But it is not long until the roar of artillery and the crash of musketry are heard from the Federal side. Nor is it long before he sees stragglers returning, a single battle-flag, a few hundred men, and several officers on horseback. I was called to share in the sight, and saw a few fugitives making their way to the Confederate line. This was the famous charge of Pickett. . . .

After the fighting began, the Professor and his family experienced the wearying effects of a battle in progress, and they could scarcely do anything but sleep. Henry remembered, "We would fall asleep in our chair when we were conversing with others, altho' our rest at night was unbroken. It was the middle of the next week before we took any interest in the field. But for the rest of the summer we made it a study." Together father and son surveyed the field, mapping the lines of combat, tracing the clues left by clothing, weapons, regimental insignia, personal belongings. Henry conversed with correspondents and soldiers who returned to view the carnage. From Henry Jacobs we learn that "at first friends and old acquaintances, and afterwards many others came to us for information. I served as a guide, without any other compensation than the enlarging of my acquaintance."

Thus it was that Michael Jacobs was persuaded to publish his little book and a few articles in magazines so that those who came or those who heard about the great Battle could know what took place in the town of Gettysburg and in her rolling countryside. The book was an instant success; the first edition of two thousand was followed by another of ten thousand copies, which also sold rapidly as did the paperback published later.

After the war Michael Jacobs' health began to fail as a crippling arthritis spread throughout his body inflicting him with disability and pain. This illness forced him to retire in 1866, but it did not dull his life of the mind. Although the College Library had long since been moved to the College Edifice, his own collection had grown considerably, and he enjoyed the time spent with his books. During his last days in July 1871 he was occupied studying Carpenter's *Human Physiology*. Memorable to his family and friends were the words he shared with Henry as they stood at the end of Chambersburg Street looking west: "The only regret I have in dying is that I must leave so beautiful a world."

Academia and Artillery: Henry Eyster Jacobs Views the Battle of Gettysburg

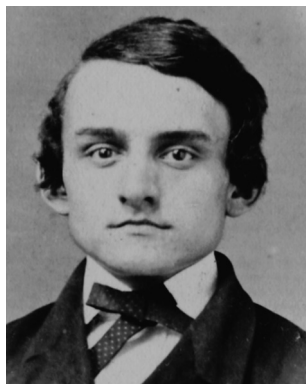
[Originally published May 1981]

As he awakened, the dream remained. The images haunted him with their sharpness, and their intrusion threatened the security of his world and made him feel far from comfortable. While he dressed for family prayers before breakfast, he let the remnants from sleep play across his consciousness. It was April 12, 1861, and he had dreamt that war between the States had begun and that a battle was being fought around Gettysburg. The artillery had made a stand at Willoughby's Run, a branch of Marsh Creek west of the town, near the railroad crossing, but their resistance had been repulsed and they retreated through the College campus. His mind floated back to the field he had seen strewn with dead and wounded soldiers.

Situated as they were ten miles from the Mason and Dixon Line, the residents of Gettysburg experienced moments of uneasiness as news filtered North or bands of refugees from Maryland in wagons piled high with household goods passed through town in their flight. Yet Henry Eyster Jacobs, a junior at Pennsylvania College, was startled when word came that war had become a reality with the bombardment of Fort Sumter on the very morning that he tossed in sleep. The strangeness of his dream did not end there, for two years later the Battle of Gettysburg began at the site where his dream began, and the shouts and sounds of battle filled the College campus as Federal soldiers moved in retreat.

When he became a young alumnus of the Class of 1862, Jacobs remained at home studying and reading

as preparation for a possible career in law. The Jacobs' residence, a large, solid red brick dwelling on the northwest corner of Washington and Middle Streets, was located directly in the line of the Confederate advance. Years later, in writing his



Henry Eyster Jacobs

*Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library,
Gettysburg College.*

memoirs, *Notes on the Life of a Churchman*, Jacobs left a vivid account of what it was like to experience the Battle from the middle of town. While this work contained considerable material on his role in the activity of the Lutheran Church, he also managed to include the sights and sounds that shaped the world of a boy growing up in a faculty family in Gettysburg.

Henry Jacobs as a child remembered that the town of his birth was “already regarded as old fashioned” and that there were “a number of conspicuous buildings that were falling to pieces with age.” As a boy, he had known people who had seen the early settlers and who had heard them tell their stories of this village built at the crossroads in the days when Conestoga wagons plied their way to York or Lancaster, Baltimore or Philadelphia. The streets of his boyhood were lined with houses that directly faced the road and that were crammed tightly together as though competing for the last vestige of space. The long stretch of gardens to the rear of these properties was usually appended with chicken coops, pigpens, and a stable with access to an alley. Like other families, the Jacobs found that life centered on the back porch during the summer months. Privacy was insured by a high fence that also protected gardens bursting with roses, honeysuckle, hydrangeas, and daisies as well as berry bushes and fruit trees. Interspersed were vegetable beds and whitewashed arbors heavy with grape vines.

From the window in the garret the Jacobs’ children watched the sun set behind the mountains in the west. Their memories of this storeroom included delightful discoveries of saddle-bags and powder horns, calabashes, and minerals in boxes. In the summer of 1863 this vantage point provided them with a lookout on the Battle through the College telescope kept there for astronomical observation by their father.

The stark white walls of the College Church on Chambersburg Street, illuminated by a massive chandelier of brass lard lamps, provided the setting for the spiritual growth of the four Jacobs children. Accompanied by their parents, they were required to attend two services on Sundays as well as Wednesday evening prayer meetings. It was there that Jacobs learned to recognize numerals by opening a hymn book and carefully watching how his father found the hymns when they were announced. He began to read as his mother pointed out words to him while she read her Bible as part of her daily devotions. Continued learning experiences at home took the place of formal education until he was nine years old.

Henry Jacobs wrote in his memoirs:

My connection with college began on November 14th, 1853, when a trembling little boy, who had just completed his ninth year was admitted into the Preparatory Department. At that time the Department numbered 80 students, all older than the little boy. A large portion of the Preparatories were mature men, who had decided to prepare for the ministry. . . . There were also a considerable number of school teachers. . . . There were also some trifling boys of well-to-do families, who were in the school largely because their parents had been at a loss as to how to dispose of them. I was sent at nine with the understanding that I was to work leisurely and should not leave the Preparatory Department for some years.

In reviewing those early years Jacobs decided, “My family life did more for me than either church or school.” As the eldest child of the remarkable professor, Michael Jacobs, he acquired an education of exceptional dimensions. A world of wonder opened to him as he shared the companionship of a father who communicated his

own scholarly interests and excitement for learning. The small boy accompanied the professor and his students on field trips and attended classes at Pennsylvania College as a visitor, listening with rapt attention to lectures in botany, mineralogy, meteorology, surveying, and mathematics. A special relationship developed between father and son, as together they roamed the fields in search of wildflowers, planned excursions to discover rocks and minerals, and years later played the flute or chased butterflies and moths in their neighborhood on long summer evenings.

Finally the time came for Jacobs' formal enrollment as a student at Pennsylvania College. He recalled, "At last in the fall of 1857, before I was thirteen, I entered the Freshman Class, younger by four years than any of its 24 members. I felt myself isolated—a sort of curiosity—and understood that my connection with the class would not be permanent, as I was to be kept back . . . lest I graduate too soon." Fascinated by Greek, the young scholar often spent three hours a night preparing a recitation. His interests and ability caused him to excel, especially in his studies in history and natural science.

A college graduate at eighteen, Jacobs remembered how he and his classmates had debated such issues as "Has a state the right to secede?" He recalled his own eloquent and bombastic remarks on the topic, "Do the signs of the times indicate the dissolution of the American Union?" The questions had become more than academic in the summer of 1863 when he turned the telescope in the garret window of the Jacobs' house and noted the presence of soldiers and horses and the light of campfires in the distance. Of July 1 he wrote:

Firing, we are told began along Marsh Creek at 4 o'clock that morning. . . . But it made no impression on the people of the town until the middle of the morning. We had become accustomed to the muffled sound of distant cannonading, and the wind may have been in a different direction. My father went to college as usual, and heard the recitations of the remnant of the class left after enlistment of the more heroic element. Then he accompanied a staff officer to the College cupola, and pointed out the strategic importance of Cemetery Hill.

As the day progressed the sharp retorts of artillery mingled with those of musketry, and the air was filled with the smoke of exploding shells. Later the streets were choked with soldiers, and the wounded straggled by the Jacobs' open doorway. During the heavy firing the family took refuge in the cellar. A large part of their subsistence consisted of biscuits and a batter of flour and water that substituted for bread, served with raspberries that the young man picked when there was no firing. Middle Street was held by a brigade from Georgia. The men got their water at the Jacobs' pump, and their officers were courteous and eager to converse at the front door. On the third day the earth shook with the reverberation of gunfire. Finally a strange silence followed, unexplained for those in the cellar. Jacobs wrote:

My father cannot be induced to remain with us. He felt by intuition what was coming. He has the glass with him in the garret. There he saw the line of Picket [sic] forming on Seminary Ridge in magnificent array. He watched it as it moved steadily forward. . . . Then comes the roar of artillery and the crash of smaller arms. . . . It is not long. He sees them going back, no longer in serried ranks, but as individuals, broken, creeping through the wrecked cornfield, a handful compared to those, who sallied forth. It is too much for him to remain longer alone. He calls: "Henry, Henry. Come, come at once. Here is a scene you will never have the opportunity again to see in your life. . . ." I went, and there I could see clearly the stragglers working their way back to the Confederate line.

In a later chapter of his memoirs Jacobs recorded:

When the excitement over the battle had passed the acute stage, and the town had quieted after the cemetery exercises, I turned to the study of Theology. This has been my father's wish from childhood. I had heard the prediction made repeatedly that I would become a minister; but for a long time, I had no inclination in that direction. I turned towards Law not because of any great enthusiasm for it, or any particular ambition for success or distinction, but because it seemed the only alternative.

In the years that followed Jacobs entered the Seminary at Gettysburg and returned to Pennsylvania College, first as a tutor in the Preparatory Department and later as professor of Greek and Latin. Deeper involvement in the work of the Church drew him to the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, where he served as professor, becoming Dean in 1894 and President in 1920. As a distinguished churchman and historian, his many articles, which later he often developed into books, could be found in *The Lutheran* and the *Lutheran Church Review* for he edited both from 1882-1895. As he paused in 1906 to write his memoirs, *Notes on the Life of a Churchman*, Henry Eyster Jacobs reflected.

My face was already turned toward the course I afterwards took, when the battle occurred. . . . The experience of that week of danger, the sorrowful scenes before me, the closer contact with death and the eternal world, the great need realized of consolation from a source higher than this world, and an intimate association on the battle-field with members of various churches and delegates of the Christian Commission, all deepened my conviction, and inspired me with a desire to devote myself to the ministry.

A Young Man's Fancy: *I, Samuel Simon, Take Thee, Mary Catherine...*

[Originally published November 1980]

Her name was Mary Catherine Steenbergen. Her soft eyes set in a gentle face framed by the ruffle of her bonnet regard one across the centuries from the canvas of her portrait and remind us of her story. Biographers of her energetic, enterprising, and scholarly husband have described her as radiantly lovely, charming, and devout. Little is known of her own life, and after searching one comes away with more questions than answers.

Mary Catherine Steenbergen was only seventeen when she married her pastor, a widower of twenty-eight with a two-year-old son, and she found herself adjusting to the role of wife and mother at the same time. On the day of her wedding, October 12, 1825, it is hardly likely that she realized she had just married probably the best educated young man among American Lutherans. In the years ahead he was to become the leading figure in nineteenth-century Lutheranism in this country and to leave his mark indelibly on the place known as Gettysburg. His strange, alliterative name is unforgettable—Samuel Simon Schmucker—a name chosen by his parents to honor the two men who, accompanied by their wives, were the sponsors at his baptism.

Pastor Schmucker had courted his young bride at the Steenbergen estate, Mt. Airy, a Southern mansion built of stone set on the hillside overlooking three thousand acres of land in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. With every trip his horse and buggy made down the mile-long lane lined with sugar maples to reach the house, he must have felt more and more at home with the well-to-do Dutch family, the Steenbergens, and with each visit he became increasingly enamored with their lovely daughter, Mary Catherine.

Samuel Simon Schmucker's marriage to his beloved Catherine was to fill the emptiness in his life left by the death of Elenora, his first wife, in 1823, six months after the birth of their baby boy, Mosheim. Distraught and overwhelmed by



Mary Catherine Schmucker

*Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library,
Gettysburg College.*

grief at the death of his childhood sweetheart, Schmucker eventually became reconciled and realized that he needed a wife, as well as a mother for his child. His ardent love for Catherine held special meaning for him and added a new dimension to his existence.

His letters to her, which she carefully treasured, reveal a side of himself that Schmucker did not show to the colleagues or students in his life. The letters contain a depth of emotion and a sense of passion that seem to contradict the image of the cool and calculating, self-possessed and unemotional professor and churchman that others knew .

One of his former students, John G. Morris, a distinguished clergyman and colleague who was influential in the Church, reminisced about Schmucker in his book, *Fifty Years in the Lutheran Ministry*. He wrote:

As a teacher he was not interesting, though he had complete mastery of his subject, yet he failed to awaken enthusiasm in his pupils. He was not socially inclined to them and admitted few to intimacy with him. He was constantly at work and had no time for the amenities of life. . . .

He was the most imperturbable man I ever knew. Nothing could throw him off his guard. . . . In the midst of the most excited debate, when everybody else around him was at fever heat, he was as cool as a frosty morning. . . .

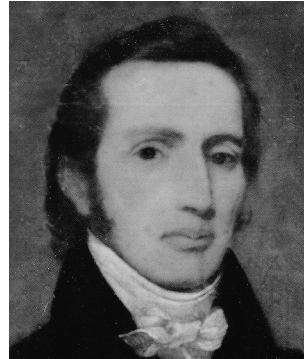
I never knew a man who had such perfect self-control . . . in Synods, meetings of boards, committees, conventions. . . . Whilst everybody around him was excited, he was serene and unmoved. Whilst his opponents spluttered and scolded and threatened, or ridiculed and sneered, he appeared to be as emotionless as an iceberg.

In his letters to his wife Catherine, however, written when he was away from home on matters related to the Church or to the institutions that he founded, Schmucker lay bare his heart and expressed his deepest feelings of devotion. Among the Schmucker letters in the archives of the Gettysburg College Library, the most moving are those he wrote to Catherine while he was on the road enlisting support for the establishment of the Seminary in Gettysburg.

From Philadelphia on March 23, 1826, he wrote:

The longer I am separated from you, My dear wife, the more I do feel my dependence on you for happiness. . . . At night when I cannot pursue my business, I feel no disposition to go into society. I sit at home and think of you, ponder over the scenes of our past love, and reflect how delighted and how overjoyed, I shall be to see your dear face again and press you to that heart which throbs, I might almost say, exclusively for you. . . . Every successive letter I receive from you, attaches me to you still more; for they show me more and more of the affection of your heart and your devotion to him whose chief happiness is in your love and whose love will bring him to your arms, as soon as duty to our common God will possibly permit.

His letters closed with the same fervent ardor with which they began. A letter from New York on April 14, 1826, was signed: "Give my love to the household, take all that your heart can wish for yourself, and believe me ever, whether dreaming or waking, your devoted and unalterable own dear husband S. S. S."



Samuel Simon Schmucker
 Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library,
 Gettysburg College.

Two of his most charming and interesting letters to Catherine were written from Gettysburg while Samuel Simon Schmucker began to get a home in readiness for the arrival of his wife and their new baby girl, Caroline Elizabeth, whom he sometimes called “Betty,” and young “Mossy,” his son. On August 30, 1826, Schmucker wrote:

Dearly beloved Katherine [sic],

As the mail leaves this place tomorrow for the south I cannot suffer the earliest opportunity to pass by without writing to you again, and telling you how much I feel the want of my dear wife. . . . The country generally, except Shenandoah, is unusually healthy, especially the vicinity of Gettysburg. I have been received with the utmost cordiality and friendship, and the prospects of our Seminary are (thanks be to our God) very flattering. . . . The house has been repaired in the most comfortable manner, and a very convenient kitchen of brick, built, comprising also a smokehouse, a pantry, a bakeoven, an ash-house and a room for the servants to sleep, all under one roof, together with a cellar under it. There is also a cellar under the front house, which contains 4 handsomely furnished rooms on each floor. . . . As I am traversing the rooms, I cannot but dwell in imagination on the happiness which I anticipate when I shall have my dear, dear wife with me together with our beautiful little “Betty blossom” and wish that you were now with me, that I could press you to the heart that loves you, and feel the responding pulsations of that which I am happy to believe, beats for me. I look forward to a life of much happiness as well as usefulness in this place. . . .

As he made progress, Schmucker was to send a letter from Gettysburg to Catherine on September 12, 1826, which read:

My dearest love,

. . . The more I learn of this place the more firm is my conviction that we will be exceedingly happy here—(but the long four weeks!!!!!! how shall I live without you till then!!!) All kinds of vegetables [sic] are brought to the door in abundance every week, peaches, pears, apples, redbeets, cabbage, potatoes (at 31 cents per bushel!!) etc. and etc. I have the greater part of the furniture unpacked, carpets laid, beds put up, chairs etc. etc. I find that they make very handsome parlour chairs here and have engaged some. As for the cradle for a dear little beauty Betty blossom, and a bed for dr. Mossy I will attend to them without delay. Of the four weeks from the date of yours (9th), I shall count every day and hour. . . . Be careful not to take cold. Do not be out early or late. Take frequent, but moderate exercise. Measure little Betty and tell me her dimensions both in altitude and latitude, that I may judge of her progress. Shall I engage a music teacher by the time she arrives? Let me hear from you soon again, and believe me ever your most affectionate and unalterable and loving, dear old man S. S. S.

To her new home in Gettysburg and to the succeeding residences of her family, Catherine brought her warm and loving spirit, her faithfulness, and her efficient management of what turned out to be a large and active household. She was to become the mother of twelve children of her own, with eight reaching maturity. Always she was there with support and understanding and a degree of solace for her husband during his periods of enormous activity and stress. She respected his need for study and maintained the quiet necessary for his constant writing.

In October 1833, seven years following the founding of the Seminary and one year after the establishment of the College, the brick house on the Ridge was completed and ready for occupancy by the Schmuckers, as the Seminary President’s family. It was a commodious dwelling of nine rooms. The house was expanded as the family grew, and it was to contain as well their joys and sorrows for thirty-one years.

Eight large open hearths provided the heat, and Mrs. Schmucker was assisted in her household duties by the indentured black servants the family brought from Virginia and freed at the end of their contracts.

Standing in the midst of a field, the house could be reached by a footpath through the grainfields or by a road for conveyances that stretched along the thick woods to the west. One day Mrs. Schmucker was returning on foot from doing errands in town, and as she approached the property, noticed considerable smoke, caused by a servant's burning refuse. Fearing that the house was on fire, she ran with the thought of rescuing little two-year-old Charley and stumbled. The fall precipitated a miscarriage followed by an infection.

In the *Lutheran Observer* was this comment: "During her whole illness she spent much time in prayer, and seemed from the beginning to have wholly given up the world and resigned herself into the hands of God. She spoke of her death with the utmost calmness, gave various directions about her family, and spent the residue of her time in giving her dying counsel to them, and comforting them in their distress."

Mary Catherine Steenbergen Schmucker died on February 11, 1848, at age forty years and five days. For Samuel Simon Schmucker that day marked the end of an era.

John Hopkins, Janitor or Vice President?

[Originally published April 1977]

At its meeting on August 12, 1868, the Board of Trustees of Pennsylvania College paid tribute at the death of two men whose contributions had been deeply entwined in the growth and development of the College. The one was Thaddeus Stevens, lawyer, political leader, patron and friend of the College, a member of the Board since its inception, champion of the cause of education. The other, a black man born in Maryland, bore the name John Hopkins, and in his twenty-one years of devoted service as the first janitor entered in the College records, he must have been a human being equally remarkable in his own right.

Receiving approval from the Board, the faculty appointed John Hopkins as janitor in the "College Edifice" on April 17, 1847, and set his wages as \$15.00 per month. Jottings inside the back cover of a volume of faculty minutes indicate that Jack began work on April 26. As a maintenance man he must have had his hands full. In addition to his janitorial duties, Jack became responsible for such various tasks as ringing the college bell and having broken windows repaired and collecting the bill from the occupants of the rooms involved.

In 1851 he was offered an extra \$5.00 for attention to the campus, and in 1852 he was given a bonus of \$20.00 for his efforts in sawing the wood and carrying it in during the winter season.

By 1856 Jack's wages were increased to \$18.00 per month, and in 1859 when the Board terminated the steward system, Jack's responsibilities increased. At that time it was decided to convert the quarters for the steward and his family on the ground floor of Pennsylvania Hall to student accommodations and to enlarge the washhouse behind the building as a residence for the janitor. Jack and his family must have spent some time in town, however, for census records of Adams County indicate that he bought a large two-story frame house and a lot on Washington Street in 1854; by 1866 he had acquired a horse and a cow and by 1868 a pleasure carriage.

Beloved by the students, Jack must have rendered many a personal kindness and often closed his eyes and ears to boyish pranks. Like many old grads, J. Howard Wert (A.B. 1861; A.M. 1865) remembered the rollicking fun of rolling cannon balls down



John Hopkins

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

the long corridors of Pennsylvania Hall. He was to write years later: "How the noise they produced when heftily propelled did roar, and echo, and reverberate through the building!" An inexhaustible supply of cannon balls tested the patience and energy of President Henry L. Baugher, who would turn white with wrath upon hearing the noise from above and charge up the stairs, only to find all of the occupants quietly studying, their innocent faces deeply immersed in books. J. Howard Wert continued, "For many years the efficient janitor was John Hopkins. . . . To him the president of the college entrusted the responsible mission of ferreting out the offenders." Somehow Jack never seemed to have any incriminating evidence to report.

A student writing in 1860 under the illustrious name of "Homer, Jr." captured Jack in these representative stanzas from a poem entitled, "Jack, the Janitor":

*There's one who treads our College halls;
Not quite so white as College walls;
But not less true than he who calls
Him Jack—our Jack the Janitor.*

*Jack makes our beds and sweeps our rooms,
But precious little time consumes,
And all our books with dust entombs,
Jack does—our Jack the Janitor.*

*Jack sweeps our rooms by sleight of hand,
Or else his boys at his command,
But leaves the dirt in corners stand,
Jack does—our Jack the Janitor.*

*Jack's summer days have fled apace,
And frosts of time have left their trace
Upon his sombre, solemn face,
Jack's face—our Jack's, the Janitor.*

*Bowed down beneath the weight of years,
Jack scarce can climb the College stairs,
Or ring the bell for Prep. or Prayers,
Poor Jack! our Jack the Janitor.*

*How oft he'll ring the College bell,
Ere it shall toll his funeral knell,
We are not able now to tell,
But hope it may at last be well
With Jack, "Old Jack,"
Yes, "Jack our Janitor."*

Jack was to live and work eight more years. His death from heart disease on Sunday, July 19, 1868, came at age sixty-two. The next evening his services conducted by Dr. Milton Valentine with the assistance of Professors Edsall Ferrier and Victor LaFayette Conrad were attended by the faculty and students in a body, making it one of the largest funerals in the community for years.

The four-part resolution adapted by the Board of Trustees upon the death of

John Hopkins includes among the words of tribute this statement: “. . . we desire to place on record our appreciation of his long and devoted services—his strict integrity & honor—his uniform & gentlemanly deportment among the students—and the high esteem in which he was held by all connected with the College.”

Thus it was that John Hopkins as well as Thaddeus Stevens earned his place in the history of the College. Thaddeus Stevens remained a bachelor, and the passer-by who reads the epitaph on his tombstone in a small graveyard in Lancaster knows that he chose this quiet and secluded spot because he did not want to rest in a cemetery not also open to negroes. John Hopkins was buried in the graveyard for the colored located near the vicinity of 113 York St. Survived by a wife and two sons, Edward and Wilson, Jack had a will drafted five days before his death. It provided that his personal property and real estate be left to his widow Julia Ann; the will was written by someone else, and by John Hopkin’s name at the end are the words “his mark” and the only signature he could make, a simple X.

James Crocker, Alumnus: A Confederate Soldier at Gettysburg

[Originally published July 1976]

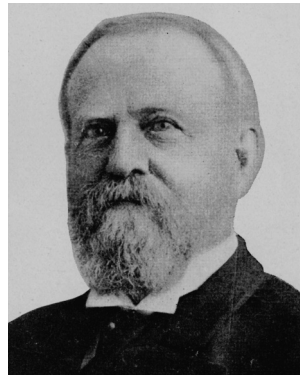
The year was 1850. The seniors at Pennsylvania College awaited September 19 with the restless anticipation coupled with the sense of relief and growing nostalgia bred by any commencement. For James Francis Crocker, class valedictorian, the day drew closer and closer as he labored on his address, trying to convey to his classmates a sense of the excitement of the time in which they lived.

As a college student, James was stirred by the heated debate in Congress concerning the bill to admit California as a state into the Union and the sectional feeling that ensued throughout the nation. He wrote in his address, "Who knows, unless patriotism should triumph over sectional feeling but what we, classmates, might in some future day meet in hostile battle array." President Henry L. Baugher, whose task it was to revise the graduation speeches, struck out this remark, no doubt considering it as a rash and foolhardy statement of the young.

Years passed and as fate would have it, James Crocker, a native Virginian, found himself in Gettysburg walking the streets during the hot summer of 1863 wearing Confederate gray. An adjutant in the 9th Virginia Infantry, part of Armistead's famed brigade, he had been wounded in Pickett's Charge and taken prisoner. While confined to the Twelfth Corps Hospital, situated near Rock Creek on Hospital Road, he was granted a pass to Gettysburg in order to be measured by a tailor for a new suit of gray.

"I had my pass countersigned at the Provost office," wrote Adjutant Crocker. "It gave me the freedom of the city. There were many federal officers and soldiers in the city. It was a queer incongruous sight to see a rebel lieutenant in gray mingling in the crowd, and apparently at home. They could see, however, many of the principal citizens of the town cordially accosting, and warmly shaking by the hand, that rebel."

"While standing in a group of old friends," Adjutant Crocker remembered, "I felt a gentle tap on my shoulder from behind. It was my dear old professor of mathematics,



*James Francis Crocker, Class of 1850.
Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library,
Gettysburg College.*

Jacobs. He whispered to me in his kindest, gentlest way not to talk about the war. The war was forgotten as I talked of the olden days.”

On the campus of Pennsylvania College, Adjutant Crocker met one of Dr. Baugher’s sons, and through the warm invitation to dine at their home, he found himself seated at the table with the president from his college days. “They were all very courteous; but I fancied I detected a reserved dignity in old Dr. Baugher,” Adjutant Crocker recalled. “It was very natural for him to be so, and I appreciated it. The old Doctor, while kindhearted, was of a very positive and radical character, which he evinced on all subjects. . . . My knowledge of him left me no need to be told that his views and feelings involved in the war were intense. And there he was, breaking bread with a red handed rebel in his gray uniform, giving aid and comfort to the enemy.”

The July days stretched out, and Adjutant Crocker became one among hundreds of Confederate wounded to board the long train at Gettysburg in the transfer of soldiers to David’s Island in Long Island Sound. A New York City newspaper reporter visiting the pavilions there that had become De Camp General Hospital described the prisoners vividly—their ragged, dirty gray uniforms, stained with blood from the struggle at Gettysburg, their wounds needing medical attention and fresh dressings.

The attention of this reporter was drawn to one of the officers, named James Crocker, and he recorded his impression of him in the story that appeared in the *New York Tribune* on July 29, 1863:

One of these officers, however was sitting at a table writing a letter. He was very civil and communicative. He was a native of Virginia, a graduate of Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, where he was wounded—a lawyer by profession, and really a man of superior talents and culture.

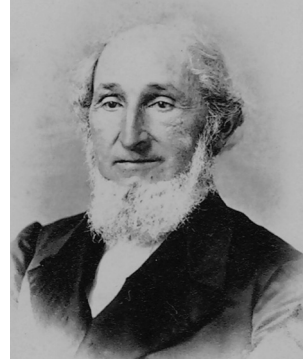
Engaging Adjutant Crocker in conversation, the reporter stated the viewpoints of this soldier from Virginia:

He said it was impossible for the North to subdue the South. The enemy might waste their fields, burn their dwellings, level their cities with the dust, but nothing short of utter extermination would give the controlling power to the North. The intelligent people of the South looked upon the efforts to regain their rights as sacred, and they were willing to exhaust their property and sacrifice their lives, and the lives of their wives and children, in defending what they conceived to be their constitutional rights. . . .

Perhaps James Crocker’s thoughts returned to an April day in 1861 of which he later wrote: “. . . at my own expense I armed myself with musket and accoutrements, took my stand at the Ocean House corner, and there with eagerness awaited the first beat of the first drum that sounded in Virginia the first call to arms.”

Fresh in his mind were the three days in July 1863 that turned the fields of Gettysburg into a battlefield, fields that he and his college classmates had wandered in company with Professor Michael Jacobs in search of wildflowers. Memories moved him to write about the spectacle and the slaughter that was Pickett’s Charge:

As the lines cleared the woods that skirted the brow of the ridge and passed through our batteries, with their flags proudly held aloft, waving in the air, with polished



President Henry L. Baugher.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

muskets and swords gleaming and flashing in the sunlight, they presented an inexpressibly grand and inspiring sight. . . . No sooner than our lines came in full view, the enemy's batteries in front, on the left, from Cemetery Hill to Round Top, opened on them with a concentrated, accurate and fearful fire of shell and solid shot. These plowed through or exploded in our ranks, making great havoc. . . . As the killed and wounded dropped out, our lines closed and dressed up, as if nothing had happened, and went on with steady march. . . . Men fell like ten-pins in a ten-strike. . . . My God! it was magnificent this march of our men.

You may have met James Crocker in the pages of *The Killer Angels*, Michael Shaara's 1975 Pulitzer Prize novel of the Battle of Gettysburg. The author gives him a two-line introduction as one of Pickett's staff but does not develop him as a character.

His leave to locate a tailor in the little town of Gettysburg was best described by the soldier himself years later, reminiscing as Judge James F. Crocker of Portsmouth, Virginia: "It was a queer episode—a peace episode in the midst of war. This experience of mine taught me that the hates and prejudices engendered by the war were national, not individual; that individual relations and feelings were but little affected in reality; and that personal contact was sufficient to restore kindness and friendship."

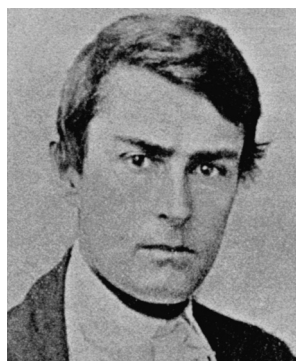
A Crossing of Bridges: Herman Haupt, Professor and Engineer

[Originally published August 1984]

The house has always intrigued me. Built of double red brick, it seems indomitable. Whenever I walk up the drive and under the huge oak tree to the porch, I always feel that I have somehow entered the nineteenth century. From its vantage point on the corner of Middle Street and Confederate Avenue, the house must have crowned the hill in its sheltered woods on an expanse of land that stretched for fourteen acres along the Ridge toward Little Roundtop. An old newspaper account describes the property as “the most beautiful residence in Gettysburg in location and architecture.”

Historically, I had known this lovely place as the Shultz House. Years passed before a casual conversation revealed that the house was originally built in the Greek revival style by Herman Haupt as a home for his bride. Serving as his own architect, he had even left his name and the year 1837 etched with a diamond on a kitchen windowpane.

The name flashed, and I remembered the photograph in the College archives—a young man, handsome, with headstrong determination in his eyes—the face of a dreamer and a trailblazer. As a professor at Pennsylvania College in Gettysburg, Herman Haupt, even in a photograph, seemed different from his theologically-educated peers on the faculty. He had come to town in 1836 on a temporary assignment as a principal assistant engineer for Pennsylvania and worked for the State to build a railroad extending from Gettysburg to Hagerstown. Although he was only nineteen years old, the new West Point graduate brought with him the capacity for hard work, a sense of ingenuity, and excellent technical training. Those who knew him as a cadet who collected demerits and wiled away his time playing cards and reading novels would have been surprised to discover that he later achieved a reputation as an engineering genius in bridge design, construction and railroad transportation, eventually becoming chief of the military railroads during the Civil War.



Professor Herman Haupt

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

After coming to Gettysburg, Haupt wrote, “I attended to my duties and had little fondness for society; parties I detested and avoided; I formed no acquaintances among the ladies, and resisted all efforts by them to draw me into company.”

The ladies of Gettysburg, however, did not give up easily. Recalled Haupt,

One evening while engaged in conversation with gentlemen at the principal hotel, a friend came to me and requested a brief interview in another room. Unsuspicious of a trap, I was ushered into the parlor and presented to about twenty young ladies. It was too late to run so I had to face the battery. It was summer. I was trotted up and down the street all evening and compelled to promise to join a picnic in the afternoon.

On the occasion of the picnic, my companion was Miss Cecelia Keller, who, as I afterwards learned from her own lips, had formed the design of making me captive, and my children . . . are themselves, the most conclusive evidence that could be presented of her success.

Herman courted the lovely dovelike Anna Cecelia throughout the summer. In the autumn, returning from the wedding of mutual friends in York, he proposed to her as he drove the buggy through a driving rainstorm. She accepted. On August 30, 1838, at the extraordinary hour of 6:00 a.m., Herman made the fair Anna Cecelia Keller his bride.

After a brief wedding trip on horseback, he brought her home to Oakridge. Together they built a life as solid as the home they shared for the early years of their married life. The house on the Ridge contained twelve rooms with high ceilings and great fireplaces, where one could sit on a bench at night and look up through the tall chimneys at the stars.

A slump in the nation's economy halted government improvement projects, and Haupt could no longer find employment locally as an engineer. To provide an income for himself and later his growing family, he decided in 1840 to open a private school for boys in his home—Oakridge Select Academy. For five years the school flourished, and in the big house pupils listened and recited and studied a rigorous classical or scientific program with strict obedience to rules and regulations. To accommodate young gentlemen from out of town, the Hauptes provided board and room in their home, finally erecting another building on the grounds for additional dormitory and classroom space.

The diary of Anna Cecelia Haupt from 1842-43 survives, and her careful attention to the small details of her life provides a recorded pattern of life at Oakridge. To read it, one experiences her practical interest in the care of pupils and of time spent in mending clothes and stockings, of making beds and tending the fires. One learns of her discovery of home remedies: calomel, camphor, ipecac, arrowroot, and sage. She writes of country town customs, of butchering and making apple butter, of Herman taking the pupils to church on the Sabbath and piling them together for sleigh rides on cold winter nights. She writes of the tragic death of their three-year-old son Johnny from the scarlet rash and of her neighbor Mrs. Samuel Simon Schmucker, who cut out the shroud and wrapped the child before the pupils carried the little coffin to the grave.

The strict discipline and high standards of Oakridge Select Academy placed it in competition with the Preparatory Department operated by Pennsylvania College. In 1845 the Board of Trustees of the College voted to absorb the academy and to offer Haupt a half-time position as head of the mathematics department. He complied.

No stranger to the College campus, Haupt had volunteered his services as a

professor prior to opening the academy. He taught architecture and civil engineering from 1837-39 without compensation, and in recognition of his services the College granted him an honorary master's degree. His second stint would last from 1845-47; thereafter, he returned to job opportunities with the Pennsylvania Railroad because he was eager to use his expertise, energy, and experience on projects in the field. While affiliated with the College, Haupt contributed his skills by drawing the plans for Linnean Hall, a building described at the time of its dedication as the first edifice in this country "devoted to Natural History, conceived designed, erected and completed through the agency of students." Haupt designed a building to complement Linnean Hall, but these plans never materialized beyond a printed sketch.

The years in Gettysburg provided Haupt with an opportunity to pursue his keen interest in railroad bridges. His efforts in wrestling with the complex stress problems of construction earned him a national reputation in the field of bridge design. While living in Gettysburg, he wrote a pamphlet, *Hints on Bridge Construction*, and he expanded this research into a book, *General Theory of Bridge Construction*, published in 1851 and still used as a reference in engineering schools.

By the 1850s, as assignments in the field drew him and his family away from Gettysburg, Haupt found it practical to sell Oakridge. His increasing accomplishments in civil engineering and railroad transportation captured the attention of military leaders during the Civil War. On April 22, 1862, he was summoned to Washington by Edwin Stanton, Secretary of War. Railway operations had become increasingly critical in the war between North and South. The distances that the Army of the Potomac needed to cover and the poor condition of the roads contributed to the urgency and expediency of using railroads for moving troops and supplying them with provisions, ammunition, and reinforcements. As targets for enemy attacks, railroads were often torn up, wood ties and bridges were burned, and locomotives were captured. The Union Army needed a man with Haupt's experience and expertise. He agreed to serve on his own terms, without remuneration, as chief of construction and transportation of the United States military railroads.

Military officials realized that Haupt was capable of making quick decisions, skilled at managing men and materials, and rapid in restoring lines of transportation and communication. In September 1862, after the Second Bull Run Campaign, Haupt was thanked in the presence of Lincoln and the Cabinet for his meritorious service in maintaining operations, and he was commissioned as a brigadier general. Lincoln's private secretary, John Hay commented: "It is due in great measure to his indomitable will, that Army movements have been characterized by such energy and celerity for the last few days. There is one man who seems thoroughly to reflect and satisfy Lincoln in everything he undertakes. . . . Haupt has, as Chase says, a Major General's head on his shoulders. The President is particularly struck with the business-like character of his dispatch. . . ."

On June 27, 1863, Haupt was authorized to move with expediency to assist the Union Army with replenishment of supplies and men. From vantage points near Harrisburg, Haupt ascertained the number and positions of the troops gathering to oppose Lee; in turn, he briefed the new commander, General George Meade, a former West Point classmate. From his reconnaissance Haupt telegraphed Washington that Lee was concentrating his forces very rapidly and moving toward Gettysburg to crush the Army of the Potomac before Meade could establish a firm command.

During the Battle, Haupt managed to run fifteen trains into Gettysburg each day, allowing for fifteen tons of supplies daily as well as the evacuation of two thousand to four thousand wounded. Haupt and his construction crews worked day and night to restore nineteen bridges destroyed in the area. After the Battle, Haupt also moved into Hanover to ensure logistics, and he opened communication between Gettysburg and Littlestown to keep officials in Washington apprised of conditions. His bitter disappointment arose from the fact that, despite his urging of Meade, Stanton and Lincoln, the Union Army did not pursue Lee—a pursuit that possibly might have ended the war.

As fate would have it, Haupt returned to the scenes of devastation that had once been the pleasant rambling countryside he had wandered as a young man and surveyed with his students from Pennsylvania College. He found that his beloved Oakridge had sustained damage from artillery fire; situated as it was on Seminary Ridge, it had become the rallying point of the left flank of the Army of the Potomac on the afternoon of July 1. By nightfall it had become a Confederate hospital, crowded with wounded from both armies.

After the war Haupt's own life was filled with lively activity, inventions, new employment and consultation. Somehow it seemed fitting that Herman Haupt met death suddenly by a heart attack while traveling in December 1905 on a Pennsylvania Railroad train.

Professor Martin Luther Stoever, Compassionate Friend

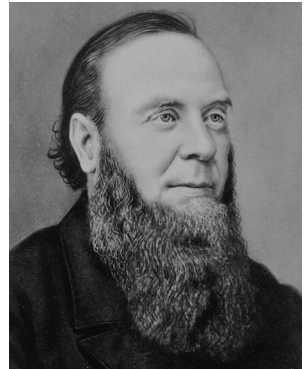
[Originally published July 1977]

A special correspondent from the *New York Times* walked the streets of Gettysburg in the hot July of 1863, talking with the townspeople, mingling with the soldiers in an effort to convey what was happening in the little town that had suddenly become a focal point of national attention. He sensed the overwhelming need for supplies, manpower, and food to cope with the aftermath of a battle in which an estimated 165,000 men had engaged in combat.

In an article in the *New York Times* of July 9, 1863, this correspondent gave recognition to a man whose kindness and compassion in helping provide for the wounded were conspicuous even to an outsider. The man was Martin Luther Stoever, Professor of Latin Language and Literature, History, and Political Economy at Pennsylvania College. The article read:

In honorable contrast to this sordidness was the conduct of Prof. Stoever and his amiable wife. As many as twelve wounded Union soldiers at once lay upon his dining-room floor, receiving from himself and Mrs. Stoever constant care. His spacious yard was for days a free ordinary, where our men ate their fill without money and without price not only, but with that hearty and cheerful welcome which so reanimates the weary. In his cellar he concealed three Union officers for three days while the town was in possession of the rebels—anxiously determined to save them from arrest and the Libby Prison. His wife fed them stealthily during that time.

Professor Stoever and his family lived on the southwest corner of the Square in a large three-story brick house—the building in which Bender's shop is now located. There are other recorded incidents of their concern and their hospitality. The *New York Times* correspondent found out that Professor Stoever had encountered a Mr. Wilkeson searching for his son's body. The professor expressed his sympathy and later sought out the gentleman and compelled him to return to his home for food. "The next day," the correspondent continued, "as Mr. Wilkeson was



Professor Martin Luther Stoever
Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library,
Gettysburg College.

passing the Professor's door to an undertaker's, he placed his little son on the watch for him, and as Mr. W. returned he went out and tenderly forced him in, and showed him a room prepared for his use so long as he should stay in Gettysburg, and then insisted upon his sitting down to a tea-table generously and elegantly spread for him and five other strangers."

In his efforts to comfort and sustain the wounded Professor Stoever visited them in the barns, homes, and public buildings that had become makeshift hospitals. In the Catholic church he prayed at the altar by the side of a dying boy asking God's mercy that his suffering might be eased. In the schoolhouse he found two wounded lads from the South, one from Roanoke College, the other from Newberry College. Surprisingly most of their professors had been former students at Pennsylvania College who were well-known by Professor Stoever; the lads then asked the professor to write home to their mothers.

Upon his return from Gettysburg, Henry W. Bellows, president of the U.S. Sanitary Commission, wrote in a letter to the editor of the *New York Times* published on July 16, 1863:

Had it not been for the unwearied labors of the people of Gettysburgh and the neighboring town, particularly York, the sufferings of these wounded men must, in the thousands of cases, ended in early death, The farmers and townfolk sent large supplies to the Christian Commission, in addition to their own copious stores, which, by the aid of a force of two hundred volunteers, chiefly ministers were rapidly and efficiently distributed. Some thousands of tired and hungry soldiers were fed at their saloon of refreshments. The wounded men had letters written for them home, and received religious counsel and support to a most gratifying extent.

Professor Martin L. Stoever lent his energies to the cause of the Christian Commission and its program, and with the other volunteers, he distributed food, clothing, and medical supplies. It was said by others that he saved many lives. Among the grateful survivors, Governor Lucius Fairchild of Wisconsin returned with his wife to Gettysburg in 1868 to visit Professor Stoever. After introducing his wife, Governor Fairchild said, "This is the man who saved my life, and prevented you from becoming a widow." Mrs. Fairchild looked at Professor Stoever with tears in her eyes and responded, "I have come from the Far West to thank you for what you have done for my husband."

Martin Luther Stoever served on the faculty of Pennsylvania College from 1843 until his death in 1870. A graduate of the Class of 1838, Martin L. Stoever became the first alumnus to return to the College as a professor. Beloved by his students, he won respect and admiration by his warm, genial, and kindly manner. Among the many letters of sympathy and the obituaries saved and cherished by Mrs. Stoever, a brief tribute printed probably for a Lutheran periodical and written by an unknown "Timothy" conveys the presence that was Martin L. Stoever on campus:

Prof. Stoever was a link between the College and its graduates, in more senses than one. No other man did so much to keep their recollections of and affections for it alive and warm, Returning when they would, they knew there was one who would remember their names and faces, extend them a cordial greeting, and feel interested in their histories. We doubt whether he ever forgot a student who studied at Gettysburg. They may often have smiled at his affectionate disposition, but he was the first one they called on whenever they returned.

In Focus: W.H. Tipton, Photographer for Town and Gown

[Originally published January 1979]

The bold, bright words on the wagon proclaimed, “Tipton the Battlefield Photographer. Gallery. No.3 Main St. Gettysburg, Pa.”, and gave evidence of the growing professional reputation of its owner. They also served as a reminder that during his political career as burgess and later as president of the borough council, “Boss” Tipton, as he was often called, had been able to persuade the town fathers to change the name of Chambersburg Street, temporarily at least.

Whether his horse-drawn vehicle clattered over the streets of town or up the road on a special assignment at Pennsylvania College or across the countryside to capture some stretch of Battlefield land, W.H. Tipton always emerged unperturbed, genial, and dapper. In his Prince Albert coat, his silk hat, and his carefully blackened shoes, he cut a figure of dignity and taste. He brought with him a full range of equipment and the skill and talent that made him Gettysburg’s best known photographer.

Portraits by Tipton were prized by families of Adams County, and both young and old found their way to his studio on Chambersburg Street. A visitor there shortly after its opening wrote in the *Littlestown Independent* of May 19, 1888:

While in Gettysburg, not long since, we had the pleasure of being shown through the large and lately remodeled photographic establishment by Mr. Tipton. . . . The salesroom contains the largest plate glass window in town, and its numerous cabinets and cases are filled with etchings, engravings, battlefield views, frames, easels, albums, etc. Every room in the house is connected with the office by speaking tubes . . . the second floor is devoted to operating, finishing, and the chemical manipulations; the skylight, reception and toilet rooms are on the front of this floor,



Tipton's Studio at 22 Chambersburg Street taken during the winter of 1914.

Courtesy of Adams County Historical Society

while the finishing room, mailing and packing department, negative, dark room and laboratory are in the back. The third story is devoted exclusively to printing, washing and toning operations, and the manufacture of magic lantern slides. The printing light runs the whole length of the building and is the largest in the United States. . . .

In addition to private sittings, W.H. Tipton's professional life was filled with a passion for landscape photography. His catalog of 1888, one among many that were printed for numerous mailings, indicates that his available collection included over five thousand negatives of the Battlefield and over one hundred thousand portrait negatives, many of them likenesses of men who were engaged in the conflict between North and South. Orders could be taken for the popular stereoscopic views, and many of the photographs could also be printed in cabinet, boudoir, 11" x 14" panels, or 14" x 17" for framing. Tipton's catalog stated: "These negatives are all so systematically arranged that any of them can be found in less than five minutes." An enormous mail order business resulted and photographs by Tipton found their way into every state of the Union and abroad to Canada, England, Australia, Russia, India.

Throughout his life W.H. Tipton retained the excitement of a boy for the Battle of Gettysburg. He had been twelve years old that July of 1863 and newly apprenticed to the Tyson Brothers, whose photographic establishment, the Excelsior Sky-Light Gallery, was located on York Street. Shortly after the fighting young Tipton began

taking pictures, and through the years that followed he recorded every area of the field with his camera. As monuments appeared and soldiers returned to trace their memories, Tipton was there. After he became a partner in the business in 1868, W.H. Tipton acquired the valuable 1863 collection of negatives by Charles and Isaac Tyson and continued to reproduce them with his own. The earliest known photograph of the scene of Pickett's charge is a



Tipton's photography wagon.

Courtesy of Adams County Historical Society

Tipton view dated 1881 which was commissioned by Paul Philippoteaux as graphic research for his cycloramic painting. One of Tipton's most cherished glass negatives was broken in 1902 when he moved across the street; it was a picture he had taken as a boy, a picture of the President, Abraham Lincoln, who had come to town in November 1863 to make a speech at the dedication of the National Cemetery.

To the growing tourist trade Tipton in his 1894 catalog urged:

As a souvenir of a visit to the field of Gettysburg, nothing more desirable can be secured than a photograph of yourself or party at some historic spot.

I have made thousands of such plates every season since 1863, and am always prepared to go out at a moment's notice.

To meet the growing demand, he opened a small gallery at both Little Round Top and Big Round Top. The souvenirs that resulted tell us much about ourselves, about American tourism—the fashions of the day, the means of transportation, the pride in an American past.

In addition to finding Battlefield scenes and views of the town of Gettysburg, a prospective customer looking over Tipton's catalogs or albums would have noticed photographs of buildings of Pennsylvania College, both exteriors and interiors. For

more than forty years, W.H. Tipton was the major photographer for the College. As early as 1870 he took individual portraits of the seniors, developed album size, for them to exchange among themselves as the popular *cartes de visite*. When the first *Spectrum* was published in 1892, it carried group pictures by Tipton, and his work can be identified in succeeding editions until his death in 1929. W.H. Tipton also did the photographic work for the first College history, which appeared in 1882 as *The Pennsylvania College Book*, edited by E.S. Breidenbaugh, Class of 1868 and professor of chemistry and mineralogy.

As a lively recorder of the College scene from a graphic point of view, Tipton lets us look through his eyes at our own past. He also made his own contribution to the annals by sending his daughter Beulah in 1888 as the first woman to matriculate at Pennsylvania College.

His own education had been much different. A native Gettysburgian, he had entered the world on August 5, 1850, as William Howard Tipton—the first of eleven children. In a letter dated April 29, 1922, to the A.M. Collins Manufacturing Company, from which he bought his photographic mounts, he wrote:

. . . The great snow storm of the winter of 1857-1858, pneumonia, small pox and a run of "Job's Comforters" [boils] extending over a period of three years reduced my school days to less than six months, but I graduated with honors from the school of Hard Knocks.

. . . I regard the three years apprenticeship as the most valuable of my life, although I found my own clothing, boarding and lodging and received a total of \$175.00 for the term. I have made every kind of picture except the Daguerrotype but buffed the plates upon which they were made. . . .

Looking back upon the accomplishments of his life, "Boss" Tipton took much pride in his term of service as representative from Adams County to the State legislature during 1897 and 1898.

Thus it was that W.H. Tipton began to give his own focus to the world about him and through the years lent his genuine interest to the places and people he saw through the camera's lens.

Professor Philip M. Biklé, Gettysburg's First Dean

[Originally published April 1979]

The cramped handwriting of John M. Krauth, secretary, bears witness to the decision recorded in the old ledger: *Resolved, That the action of the Board establishing the office of Vice President of the College Faculty be rescinded, and that the office shall hereafter be named by the title Dean of the Faculty, whose Duties shall be the same as those of the Vice President.*

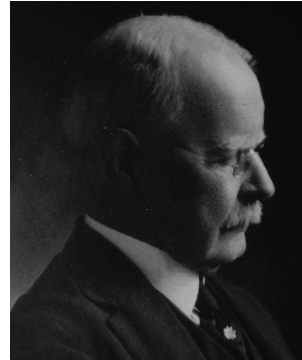
Prof. P. M. Bikle, Ph.D., was elected Dean of the Faculty on motion of Mr. Miller.

It was the 5th of June 1889 and, through the initiative of Mr. Daniel R. Miller, Pennsylvania College had just acquired as its first dean a man whose years of service, educational philosophy, interests, and ability were to become a part of the changing scene at Gettysburg for fifty-one years. Philip Melanchthon Biklé, Pearson Professor of Latin Language and Literature and secretary to the faculty, now had another title that carried with it administrative details in addition to his classroom responsibilities.

Joining the faculty in 1874 as Ockershausen Professor of Physics and Astronomy upon the opening of the observatory, Philip M. Biklé was to work under five Presidents through the years, serving with four of them as Dean. The names Valentine, McKnight, Hefelbower, Granville, and Hanson were to hold for him more than a set of accomplishments and lifestyles recorded in a college history. Dr. Biklé watched the College grow from a core of eight professors and eighty-three students in 1874 to thirty-eight faculty members and 668 students at the time of his retirement in 1925.

His roots in Gettysburg were deep. In 1862 an eighteen-year-old, Philip Melanchthon Biklé, had opened the gate in the fence and entered the large white College Edifice to be examined in Caesar, Virgil, Adam's Latin Grammar, the Greek Reader, Sophocles' Greek Grammar, Ancient and Modern Geography, English Grammar, Arithmetic, and Loomes' Elementary Algebra.

Upon acceptance for admission to Pennsylvania College in a class of thirty, young Biklé found that costs for his first term were as follows: tuition—\$12.00; room rent—\$3.00; board—\$26.00; washing—\$3.00; fuel and light—\$2.00. Books and



*Philip Melanchthon Biklé, Ph.D.
Pearson Professor of Latin Languages
and Literature and Dean of the
Faculty.*

*Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library,
Gettysburg College.*

clothing and the furniture for his dormitory room were additional; he would save on travel expenses by walking the twenty-four miles to Gettysburg from his home in Smithburg, Maryland.

Philip Melancthon's freshman year at Pennsylvania College was interrupted by the excitement and confusion of the Battle. His youngest son, Philip, Class of 1905, remembers that his father missed the action by anticipating that the armies would converge in Maryland and going south to be on hand.

There was, however, the memory of an unforgettable day in November 1863 when President Lincoln came to town to make a speech. Years later Dean Biklé was to describe the procession that formed on York Street to march to the cemetery. He wrote:

The way I got into that procession was because the students of the college were given a place, and I was a student. We were assigned the inconspicuous position of tail-enders, and much to our regret, as many of us wanted to hear the speeches and we thought we should find ourselves on the outskirts of the crowd when we reached the cemetery.

While the procession formed, the tail-enders were positioned across from the Wills' House as Lincoln and his party mounted their horses and waited to lead. When they reached the cemetery, the column divided, and the Pennsylvania College boys were allowed to march through and halt directly in front of the speakers' platform. Dean Biklé was to recall:

I have never been so wedged in a crowd in my life as I was then, but I was determined to see it through . . . When Mr. Lincoln rose to speak the stillness was very noticeable. It was the tall, gaunt figure of a man that might be called somewhat imposing but certainly not attractive . . . With a hand on each side of his manuscript (typewriter size), he spoke in a most deliberate manner, and with such a forceful and articulate expression that he could be heard by all in that immense throng . . . There was no gesture except with both hands up and down, grasping the manuscript which he did not seem to need, as he looked at it so seldom. In this way he delivered the whole speech. I do not remember whether there was any applause, but I do remember that there was surprise that his speech was so short . . . On coming away I said to a classmate: "Well, Mr. Lincoln's speech was simple, appropriate, and right to the point, but I don't think there was anything remarkable about it." That was the opinion of a wise sophomore . . . The sophomore now sees it in its true light and will always rejoice that it was his privilege to hear it.

That wise sophomore continued his studies, graduating with third honors and addressing the commencement crowd in 1866 with the Latin salutatory. Matriculating at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, Philip M. Biklé became an ordained Lutheran minister in 1869. He turned, however, to the classroom.

The role of Philip Melancthon Biklé as the first dean of the faculty at Pennsylvania College can be surmised from bits of information regarding duties assigned and actions taken. The person who was Dr. Biklé emerges somewhat more clearly from his work as founder of the *Pennsylvania College Monthly*, the first all-campus publication, which he edited from 1877 to 1893. One of the top college magazines in the Country, the *Monthly* contained thought-provoking articles and editorials, personalized alumni news and spritely College quips, campus news and views, and items of exchange from other collegiate publications.

For the editorial and business staffs, the highlight of the year was the annual *Monthly* supper hosted by Dr. Biklé and his gracious wife Emma in the faculty residence that was their home on campus. The evenings began with conversation in the parlor, followed by the summons of the dinner bell to a table laden with choice dishes, delicacies, and tropical fruits. After the feast, toasts were given, and the company enjoyed games and laughter, music and poetry. Mrs. Biklé played the piano and usually composed a song especially for the occasion.

The Biklé children joined their parents in these festive evenings and helped to greet the guests. Three of the boys had been born in the residence on campus, and their growing-up was filled with the sounds and excitement and sometimes the quiet boredom of being faculty children, living as they did in the center of academia. From a collection of Biklé letters in the Gettysburg College Library, it is evident that the family was closely knit by the bonds of affection and the sharing of common interests. Through these letters the Biklé children become three very different boys: Henry, tender and eloquent; Paul, sincere and frank; Philip, matter-of-fact and humorous. All of them, as well as their half-brother Horace, were to become graduates of Pennsylvania



The faculty residence, 1870-1922, (later Cottage Hall) was located on the site of the present Schmucker Hall. Dean Biklé and his family resided here.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

College. Their days as children on campus held the fun of skating on the Tiber, playing dominoes with their father, reading *St. Nicholas* and *The Youth's Companion*, enjoying their dog Waggles, attending concerts in Brua Chapel, struggling with Greek, and laboring over the writing of essays.

Much of their father's time was spent in study and in his work as editor of the *Monthly* as well as the *Lutheran Quarterly*. Often the family was involved in some facet of his efforts. It was Dr. Biklé's namesake, however, who imitated his father by editing his own weekly newspaper for the family and setting up his office in a corner of the professor's study. Dr. Biklé once wrote to the eight-year-old editor:

Oct. 28. 1893

Philip R. Bikle, Esq
Editor of the News:—

Dear Sir,—I have seen several copies of the News, and think so highly of it that I should like to become a subscriber. Please send me a sample copy so that I can see whether it still maintains its high standard. Further-more, I should like to know whether you want any contributions, and whether you pay an adequate compensation for articles of merit, especially of poetry. I am quite a poet. Nobody else says I am, but I know it, and you can rely upon my statement for I am a man of my word. I know you are a man of discriminating literary taste, and I shall cheerfully submit to your judgment.

Praying for an early reply, I am, sir,
Yours most obediently,
Philip Melanchthon

Apparently Phil's youthful editorial efforts continued for some time as twelve-year-old Philip wrote to his mother from their faculty residence:

Sep. 9, 1897

My Dear Mama,

It is now about nine o'clock and I have just been down on the porch eating some crabs that Mrs. Nixon [a faculty wife who lived with her family in the other half of the residence] gave me. We got new geographies yesterday they are in two parts, the first part contains the history and questions and the second part hardly anything except maps and pictures. The students [on campus] are yelling for all they're worth. Those crabs have made me fell (sic) very sick at my stomach. I do not like to wear wash suits because they get dirty so soon. I have my little office in the study now and I like it as much as ever. With loads of love for all I am.

Your Boy,

P.B., Jr.

The Biklés were proud of their boys. Henry and Phil were valedictorians at Pennsylvania College, making glad the heart of their father whose initiative helped establish a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at their alma mater in 1922. After graduation from Pennsylvania College, Horace became a jeweler; Henry embarked on a career in law; Paul entered medicine; and Phil edited the *Gettysburg Times* for twelve years before establishing his own insurance agency. The three younger boys were also brothers in Sigma Chi. Phil Biklé was an enthusiastic and strong supporter of the Theta chapter that his father, one of four charter members, helped to bring to campus in 1863.

Phil Biklé remembered his parents as two very intelligent people—his mother, warm and loving; his father—kindly, a good friend, a man interested in community affairs. Having also been taught by their father in the classroom, the Biklé boys would probably have joined in the appreciation that prompted the Class of 1926 to dedicate the *Spectrum* to a retiring dean, Philip Melanchthon Biklé, “who, for a half century and more, has, by practice and precept, labored to instill in Gettysburg youth the ideals of a true, educated gentleman. . . .”

“My Dearest Friend”: The Letters of Mary and Wilburn

[Originally published December 1986]

“My Own Dear Friend,” the letter began. The thin, angular script of a girlish hand has faded to brown on the yellowed paper. As I trace the date, November 23, 1867, and bridge the century, I continue reading: “My own love, how I wish you were here tonight. The ink flows sluggishly in my pen and I cannot write to you what I would say.” With practice the words would come, intelligently, lovingly, tenderly. Carefully the letters were treasured, hers to him and his to her. As I read them, gently turning the pages, I realize that their words become for me the portrait of a marriage.

She was only fifteen when he asked for her hand in marriage. Her name was Mary Gingrich. He was her pastor, the thirty-year-old Reverend Mr. John Henry Wilburn Stuckenberg. He wanted her to share in the culture and excitement of his forthcoming trip to Germany. Her father refused to give consent because of her young age. Thus, the letters began—the correspondence of Mary and Wilburn—and continued during four years of courtship and thirty-four years of marriage. The surviving letters between the two total more than 560. As I read them in the Special Collections Room in Musselman Library, I become acquainted with two different people who remained very much in love and whose lives melded into a rich and meaningful relationship. I come away with a new understanding of their contributions.

Those who remember the name Stuckenberg know that Mary was the founder of the Woman’s General League of Gettysburg College, a strong support group celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary in November.

Her husband was the private collector of over 900 rare maps from the 17th and 18th centuries now held by Musselman Library. This valuable collection, unusual for a college of this size, received considerable attention during the past academic year when forty selected items formed “The Traveler’s Eye: An Exhibition of Maps, 1640-1812” that opened in Schmucker Hall Art Gallery on campus. The Stuckenberg Lecture



Mary Stuckenberg

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

presented at Gettysburg College is a continuing tribute funded through a bequest left by Mary Stuckenberg to honor her husband. The topic of the guest lecturer concerns an issue related to social ethics. Stuckenberg's writings place him as an early advocate of the theory of combining Christianity and sociology to solve social problems. During his lifetime, Stuckenberg, recipient of an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1899 from Pennsylvania College in Gettysburg, delivered his own lecture series on our campus.

Stuckenberg's interest in the College was reflected in the terms of his will. After his death the College Library received his large collection of maps, his private library, a portrait of Luther from the Lucas Cranach workshop, as well as an album belonging to Goethe, a secretary and a large working desk from the estate of Alexander von Humboldt. As I read the letters of Mary and Wilburn sitting at the desk from which many of them were written, the years slip away, and I feel that I come to know the Stuckenbergs—a most unusual couple! It seems an appropriate moment in time to rediscover through their own words who they were and what they meant to each other.

"I sometimes picture wedded life to myself," wrote Stuckenberg in 1867 during their courtship. "We shall love each other, Mary, sincerely, deeply, permanently. Joys and sorrows shall bind us together more closely. With hand in hand, with heart beating in unison with heart we will battle together life's contests with one hope, one aim, one common work. And we two shall be one and our united work will be greater than that of either of us separately. . . ."

The Reverend Mr. J.H.W. Stuckenberg had met the tall, dark-haired, dark-eyed Mary Gingrich at the home of her parents in Erie, Pennsylvania. Her father, Henry, one of the elders in the congregation, became a strong support for the new pastor and often engaged him in discussion. During his visits Stuckenberg became taken with the refreshing simplicity and unaffected charm of the Gingrich's eldest daughter, Mary. Encouraging her eagerness to learn about the country of her ancestors, he invited her to attend the German classes he taught. A friendship developed, and Stuckenberg realized that he had found his life's companion.

From the beginning of their relationship, Mary and the pastor shared a common bond in their German-American heritage. In 1839, at age four, Johann Heinrich Willbrandt Stuckenberg had emigrated to the United States from Bramsche with his mother and brother and sisters. The ship docked in Baltimore, and little Heinrich, as he was known by the family, had his first experience on American soil when he was weighed with the baggage and moved on land with the freight. The Stuckenberg family was reunited in Pittsburgh, where the father, a farmer skilled in carpentry, had previously established himself. During the years of his growing up, Heinrich traveled with this family almost five hundred miles by boat up the Ohio River to settle in Cincinnati and journeyed by wagon across the prairies to the backwoods of Indiana, where a log cabin became home.

The only books owned by the family were a German Bible, a German hymnal from their church in the Old Country, and a novel. Heinrich read them avidly and from them developed an intensive knowledge of the scriptures and a sense for sacred songs. Encouraged by devout parents with strong religious convictions, he was confirmed by an itinerant preacher in the Lutheran faith. The family moved again, and by age sixteen Heinrich became employed as a "bundle boy," running errands for a dry goods store in Cincinnati. His first savings were spent for books. Persuaded by his pastor, Stuckenberg entered Wittenburg College in Springfield, Ohio, to study for

the ministry. Although he lacked appropriate formal education for this step, he managed to graduate first in his class with the reputation of having read every book in the College Library. By 1858, one year later, he completed theological studies at Wittenberg and arrived at his first pastorate in the German community in Davenport, Iowa.

By the time Mary Gingrich had met the Reverend Mr. J.H.W. Stuckenberg in 1861, he had returned from studying at the University of Halle in Germany, an opportunity that awakened his appetite for scholarship and strengthened his attraction to his homeland. Since Mary would not be accompanying him in 1865 on his study trip to universities in Göttingen, Berlin, and Tübingen, he filled his disappointment by writing to her frequently to share his experiences. He wrote to her in August 1865:

I live mostly in the old world. All my studies carry me back many centuries into the past. Thus far I have been occupied chiefly with the prophets of the Old Testament and with the philosophers of Greece. . . . What treasures of thought the old world offers the student! I could spend my life in gathering them.

At first his letters were filled with the well-intended advice that a guardian would proffer to a schoolgirl ward. Gradually as the relationship deepened and Mary matured, the two communicate as a man and a woman in love. In 1865, at the beginning of their courtship, he wrote to her:

You say in your letter that you miss me. And I miss you, Mary, daily and hourly. I miss you when alone in my room, thinking of the past or dreaming of the future. I miss you when in company, which you ought to enjoy. When in the gallery of art, when listening to the very best music—for which Berlin is so celebrated. . . . During the gloomy days of November and the cold days and long hours of winter I wish you much cheer and joy. May this winter be to both of us a season of great mental and spiritual progress. And as your thoughts wander to Germany and mine to you in America, may we always think of each other with pleasure and with hope.

Mary's letters to Mr. Stuckenberg relate her efforts in preparation for becoming a good wife: "I am very busy now in learning to do housework and to sew, becoming practical you see." She also kept him informed of her progress in her studies at the Lake Erie Seminary in Plainsville, Ohio, where her parents sent her at his urging. He wrote to her about this new academic venture:

I can well imagine how you will feel when you leave home for the first time and become to some extent independent. There will be many pleasures in the new life and many difficulties; there will occasionally be a longing to be at home. The gloomy days of autumn will fill the soul with tender emotions, when the wind plays with the leaves and scatters the flowers; and hours of melancholy may come when the dusk of evening gathers, or the rain beats against your window. . . . But you will enjoy your studies. . . . Your ideas will expand, your mind will grow. . . . the labyrinth of your heart will be entered—and you will learn to know it better.

Although they were engaged, the couple's letters reflect the formality of their time. The signature "J.H.W. Stuckenberg" appears on letters written to Mary until nineteen years after their marriage when he finally signed them "Wilburn," her



John Henry Wilburn Stuckenberg
 Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library,
 Gettysburg College.

special name for him. Mary began her letters “Dear Mr. Stuckenberg” until October 28, 1867, when she addresses her fiancé as “My dearest Friend,” and writes of herself:

Eighteen today. Of age, some have told me, but where is the advantage in being of age to a lady. How constantly we are under authority. Our whole lives, we must learn submission and weakness. O, such hard bitter lessons for me to learn.

Still struggling with the independence in her nature, Mary reminded Stuckenberg before their marriage, “Oh my dearest friend, it is so very hard for me to obey. Love, honor and obey! Yes, I will love and honor. I pray for a meek and lowly spirit, for a humble heart. Will it come to me?” She wrote with a lighter touch, “My Stuck, do you think I ever have obeyed you or will in time to come?” He admitted, “Like you I cannot realize that we are to be married so soon; indeed, I have been a bachelor so long, that I shall with some reluctance, I fear, give up the freedom so long enjoyed.”

As their courtship progressed he assured her, “There is nothing improper in the fact that you now say frankly that you love me.” Mary was to write to him later at his new pastorate in Indianapolis:

Fierce howling of the wind and the ghostly tapping of hard frozen snow crystals upon the window pane give me a lonesome feeling and send out from the heart fierce desires to be satisfied only by the return of kindred emotions of that heart’s best love. How I wish I knew you were warm and safe tonight. How I wish you were here.

He shared his feelings with Mary before their marriage:

I have thought sometimes that perhaps our love had more of the head than the heart in it; sometimes I have thought it might be owing to the fact that head and heart so well balance each other. . . .

Earlier he had written:

You are to be my heart-friend, the companion of my soul, the shaper of all my joys and all my griefs. I think that we can learn to become to each other what we feel we want—the best friend on earth. . . . Mary, you shall be my pupil after we are married—and in some things I will be yours. You can teach me many things. A woman with a deep pure soul can teach a man much which he cannot learn from self or from other men. . . .

Mary Gingrich Stuckenberg was to become a warm support to her husband, complementing his quick movements and aggressive nature with her calm temperament and gracious manner. Together as “heart friends” they delighted in books and music, art and antiques. They encouraged each other in their individual interests, in studying and writing. Mary understood her husband’s need to pursue his life as an independent scholar, lecturer, and author.

After their marriage on October 27, 1869, she entered in the demanding responsibilities of his congregation in Pittsburgh by taking an active role as the pastor’s wife. In 1873 in response to an invitation from his alma mater, Wilburn accepted the chair of Sacred Philology at Wittenburg College. During his seven years on the faculty in the Department of Theology, he taught exegesis, homiletics, symbolics, Greek, and Hebrew as well as German, history, and sociology. The Stuckenbergs lived in a house on the campus surrounded by meadows and fields, a tranquil setting interrupted by Wilburn’s decision to leave his professorship to find renewal in research, writing, and travel abroad.

As the Stuckenbergs sailed for Germany on the S.S. Wieland in August 1880, they anticipated a stay of one or two years. As their life unfolded their sojourn extended to

fourteen years that would prove to be the most enriching and joyous period of their lives. At home in Berlin, they identified with the culture and customs of the country close to their hearts. Wilburn had already published *The History of the Augsburg Confession* (1869) and *Christian Sociology* (1880). Now he embarked on a new project, *The Life of Immanuel Kant* (1882), the first biography of Kant written in English.

Attending public worship services at the American chapel, the Stuckenbergs became involved with the participants, and shortly Wilburn became founding pastor of what became the American Church in Berlin. This post provided him with some income but did not entail the responsibility of a congregation, thereby freeing him for scholarly pursuits. Thousands of American students during the years found in the Stuckenbergs at the American Church in Berlin a haven of support, guidance, and hospitality when they were far away from home. The Stuckenbergs could provide information on boarding houses. They knew families who were willing to converse in German with newcomers. They could suggest courses and professors at the universities.

On Sunday evenings the Stuckenbergs opened their apartment at Bülow Strasse 18, and it became a gathering place for Americans in Berlin. Over two hundred people often crowded into adjoining rooms and filled a long hallway. A correspondent for the *New York Observer* described his experience as a guest:

A warm welcome from Dr. Stuckenberg and his wife makes us feel at once at home, and we mingle with many pleasant Americans we find there, and exchange greetings with strangers as though they were old friends. But soon a hush falls on the rooms, everyone is seated, and as the stillness grows into silence, Dr. Stuckenberg takes his place in the doorway between the two rooms and begins a delightful discourse that lasts for less than an hour and is always too short to please the audience. . . . of what does he talk? . . . of everything that can help to influence his young hearers to high and noble purposes, to a life full of love to God and man. The talk is not always on religion, but is always helpful and educating.

Each autumn American students arriving in Berlin stopped at Bülow Strasse 18 with letters of introduction or requests for counsel. Mrs. Stuckenberg was available in the reception room of the apartment from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. to help students find lodgings in pensions through lists she kept. Stuckenberg reserved the hour from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in his study for those who sought his help and counsel. After services each Sunday Mrs. Stuckenberg met newcomers at the church door, welcoming them, extending her friendship, and inviting them to her home.

During the Berlin years the correspondence between Mary and Wilburn resumed. Unlike most couples of their day, they often traveled independently, spending months apart. As they had no children, the Stuckenbergs had more freedom in scheduling their journeys; however, they often invited young people as traveling companions. Wilburn kept lecture engagements, negotiated with publishers, pursued his research, led tours, and traveled throughout Europe with relatives. Mary spent time at the baths at Franzensbad in Bohemia for her health, visited her family in America, and traveled in Europe with her young nieces while Wilburn worked on his books. The letters of their married life are no longer an exploration of themselves and a reaching out to know each other. As a married couple they write about their family and friends, the sights and sounds of Europe, the weather, their health, their personal activities, and their continuing love for each other. Often they wrote daily.

At first the separations were difficult for Mary. In the winter of 1882 she wrote from Berlin to Wilburn in London, where he was discussing his book with his publisher, Mr. Macmillan: “The days of your absence are a long tunnel, bright only because light comes in from the end.” Gradually she became accustomed to his absences and to traveling without him. On April 2, 1888, Mary wrote to Wilburn from a hotel in Bremen:

My Darling Husband,

It has been a number of hours since we parted, my face set from you. But believe me my heart looks backward, and will until we meet again, precious Wilburn. Like everything else big, a little time, a little distance shows one your relative value much more prominently, but I do not want sublime views often. This I hope will be the last time we leave each other. It is too sad to part and to live apart.

Two days later Mary Stuckenberg sailed for America to begin an enormous undertaking—canvassing for funds to build a church for the Americans in Berlin. In her travels she talked with hundreds of people and gave speeches to many societies and groups. She spoke with ease, with graciousness and charm, quickly becoming comfortable with any audience. Her success was astounding. Mrs. Grover Cleveland, the President’s wife, who had been a visitor at the American Church in Berlin, served as treasurer for the funds. Mary Stuckenberg solicited more than \$40,000 that accumulated through pledges to \$100,000 by 1900. Mary’s letters to Wilburn were filled with news of her engagements and the exhilaration of her success.

On June 20, 1888, Mary wrote to Wilburn from Providence, Rhode Island: “Sometimes almost an agony of longing to see you comes over me.” Her letters persuaded him to join her as she traveled. The seven weeks that followed became the most cherished time of their marriage. They delighted in their enjoyment of each other. Wilburn returned to Berlin in September. On their wedding anniversary Mary wrote to him from Boston:

All this memorable day the tenderest thoughts of you come trooping. Nineteen beautiful years we have been walking together, no matter whether separated in space, and the last year has been more a honeymoon than any of the others. . . . It seemed to me last summer that you had grown in patience and in many noble qualities. Perhaps the long separation may be such a discipline as will so much better fit us the one for the other that it will more than atone for the pain of it.

Wilburn wrote from Berlin: “It seems to me that the longer and farther we are separated, the nearer we come to each other.” As Mary neared the end of the campaign for the American Church in Berlin, she wrote to Wilburn:

God grant that whatever life is left to us may be spent together after this work’s speedy completion. Were not the last summer’s seven weeks together the sunniest of our lives? Here I eat alone, pace the streets alone, sometimes late into the night, have reached home at eleven—and but for the bright thought of you, my good, true, lofty husband, it would be dark trudging.

The years left to them were spent in the individual interests they both shared—writing, lecturing, and travel. Wilburn completed *An Introduction to the Study of Philosophy* (1888) and continued working on other books, among them *The Social Problem* (1898), *An Introduction to the Study of Sociology* (1898), and *Sociology, the Science of Human Society* (1903). Both he and Mary wrote articles for Lutheran periodicals. For eighteen years Wilburn contributed a section to the *Homiletic Review* that kept readers informed of biblical, theological, and religious thought in

Europe. Although the Stuckenberg family returned to America in 1894 and established a home in Cambridge, Massachusetts, they continued to spend time abroad to keep in touch with people, ideas, and movements.

Wilburn spent days in the great libraries of Europe, arriving as soon as their doors opened. He treasured his time at the Royal Library of Berlin and delighted in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris. In 1899 he wrote to Mary from Berlin: "There is so much to be done and so little time to do it. How fortunate that my whole heart is in my studies. Indeed, I might say that my task is my delight and my passion." Two months later in a letter from Paris, Wilburn wrote to Mary: "My mission, that seems certain, lies in hard study and in communicating its results."

Wilburn's last letters are filled with his pleasure in pursuing the resources at the Royal Library in the British Museum. He gloried in its twenty-four miles of shelves. To Mary he wrote in the summer of 1901: "80,000 volumes look down on me from the shelves under this grand dome. Some day you may have them look down on you too." During his years in Berlin, Stuckenberg had frequented the auction house of Lepke, buying maps, paintings, and other objects of art for his private collection. During his visits to the Library he checked the map catalog, taking delight that he owned some valuable maps not held by the British Museum.

On April 23, 1903, Stuckenberg sailed on the S.S. *Mayflower* for London. It was to be his last voyage. A few days before leaving he wrote to Mary, already in Europe for conferences of the Women's Christian Temperance Union: "How I long for the invigorating sea-breeze! I look for new strength, new life. I doubt whether I ever needed recreation and recuperation more." Recovering from the grippe, he complained of fatigue and a persistent cough, he assured her repeatedly of his improving health: "Soon you will be here. London will welcome you. . . . Get new life and bring it with you when you come. My health is excellent!"

In Wilburn's last letter to Mary, he writes of his Sunday in London . . . a beautiful service in Temple Church, an afternoon in Kew Gardens, dinner in the evening with friends. A postcard written after dinner during a day at the library in the British Museum reached her in Berlin on May 28, 1903. Shortly a telegram arrived: "I am sick with laryngitis. Come soon." In one hour Mary left by train for London. The summons came too late.

A visitor to the National Cemetery in Gettysburg can find among the graves a large rounded stone. It bears the names of J.H.W. Stuckenberg (January 6, 1835-May 28, 1903) and Mary Gingrich, his wife, (October 29, 1849-October 3, 1934). Their ashes were placed in this plot in recognition of Stuckenberg's service as a chaplain to the 145th Pennsylvania Volunteers. He had prayed with his regiment as the Battle of Gettysburg began, and on the field he assisted the wounded by moving them on stretchers and by providing bandaging, medication, and spiritual support. The gravestone bears the text for a sermon that Wilburn preached at Gettysburg, "Now We See Through a Glass Darkly"—and for himself, and Mary, he added the words "But We See."

Master of the Academy: Dr. Charles H. Huber Presides

[Originally published May 1982]

He had come to Gettysburg as a lad of sixteen on a rainy day in April 1888. Years later he remembered: “My father . . . brought me . . . to the Academy . . . just as his father had brought him at the same age by horse and carriage in 1850; he took me to the same hotel, the McClellan House. . . .” Memories of that dreary evening remained: “I was ushered in due time to my room, equipped with a tin candlestick and a small piece of candle. There was no heat in the bedrooms and a cold rain outside was doing its best to cheer me up.” The next day, as he wandered in the rain, he decided that he liked the town and that he wanted to stay in Gettysburg as long as he could.

The matriculation records stated his name as Charles Henry Huber from Philadelphia. Following his studies at the Preparatory Department (later known as the Gettysburg Academy) operated in Stevens Hall by Pennsylvania College, he entered the College as a member of the Class of 1892. During the year of his son’s graduation, the Reverend Mr. Eli Huber, Class of 1855, accepted the post as the first professor of English Bible at the College, and the family moved to Gettysburg. Charles attended the Seminary and returned to the Preparatory Department as a tutor, becoming vice-principal in 1895. Little had he thought during that stroll in the rain on an April day in 1888 that within eight years, at age twenty-five, he would be the principal of the school. His appointment in 1896 was the beginning of forty-five years of dedicated service to the Preparatory Department, to Gettysburg College, and to the community he had adopted as his home.

Charles Huber watched the campus of his alma mater grow from thirty-nine acres to more than ninety during the administrations of four College presidents. As a sophomore he had helped to survey the campus, using an ancient transit. “I found when I made my draft of the courses,” he recalled, “that the ends would not meet so I coerced the last line and made it meet, blaming the inaccuracy on the old instrument.”



Charles Huber

*Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library,
Gettysburg College.*

Remembering his days as a student in Pennsylvania Hall, Charles Huber once remarked, “Until the close of my freshman year we students managed to keep warm with the aid of an egg stove with a flat top.” Water for the Saturday-night bath was heated in a tin bucket, and it was carefully conserved. For Huber a trek to the pump involved four flights of steps, a walk through the length of the building, and a dash of more than 100 feet outside no matter what the weather. “We learned to burn the midnight oil,” he recalled, “because our lamps, often messy and murky and smelly, could burn nothing else. . . . As for the beds, some had rope springs, which had a way of giving down in the middle of the night. . . . Most of them had no springs and corn husk mattresses were quite the thing.”

When Charles Huber was a student, tuition at Pennsylvania College averaged \$15.00 per term. Room rent in the dormitory was listed at \$5 per term, and boarding in town could be had for up to \$3 per week. A fellow could have his washing done for \$1.25 per month. Enrolled in the Classical Course, Charles Huber took a liberal arts program with a heavy concentration of Latin and Greek.

Study gowns accented with smoking caps and slippers had come in vogue and were worn by college boys as comfortable attire during long hours in the dorm room, hopefully spent in concentration over their books. Taking a break from their studies, Charles Huber and his friends enjoyed skating at the Spring’s Dam or sitting wrapped beside a favorite girl with a sleighing party as they sped over the snow on a crisp moonlit night. With the approach of warm weather, bicycles, the national rage, burst upon the campus lanes, and racquets came out of hiding as fellows became caught up in a new enthusiasm—tennis. On a pleasant Saturday afternoon sophomores took tin containers to collect wildflowers from the fields for their botany course, and upperclassmen took young ladies on the Battlefield excursion to Round Top via the new electric railway.

As enrollment at Pennsylvania College increased, students identified themselves more completely with members of a particular class, and strong spirit and rivalry developed. Charles Huber and the twenty-five other students in the Class of 1892 sported the customary white silk hats and canes that announced their status as seniors. During Huber’s sophomore year, College caps had become the rage; they were soft and snug with a visor, designed in alternating stripes of College colors. Pennsylvania College had unofficial colors often listed as scarlet and canary sometimes set off with blue. Huber left this description of the circumstances that led to the “glorious orange and blue”:

Amid much noise and enthusiasm we voted for college caps in the college colors. . . . After some correspondence with cap makers, the committee was informed that most colleges have only two colors. In addition no textile mill could be found to produce such a combination of colors as ours. One bright salesman, however, suggested that it might be easier and quicker to change our colors to something “in stock” and delicately hinted that Orange and Blue was a pretty combination and could be had and so . . . we voted unanimously for the motion.

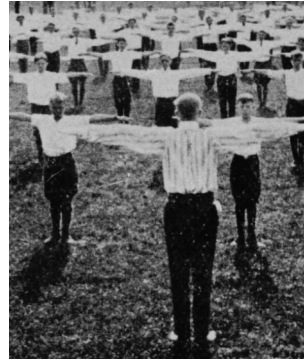
The motion was approved by the faculty, and orange and blue burst forth in college caps, class buttons, blazers, and pullovers.

During the winter months students hung out in Amos Eckert’s men’s store on the square. As the weather warmed, they crowded the pavement outside, sometimes blocking traffic. His new duties as principal of the Preparatory Department entitled Charles Huber to socialize in the gathering place for faculty of the College and

Seminary at Buehler's Drug Store on Chambersburg Street. He wrote: "One of my first acts was to saunter with a suppressed elation, up to Buehler's and take my seat on a box where I proceeded to listen to the words of older and wiser men. The conversation, as I recall it, was exceedingly interesting and informing." At Buehler's Huber heard stories of College lore and tales of the old grads of the College and the Preparatory Department. He learned of the days when these two schools were both housed on the southeast corner of Washington and High Streets.

After Pennsylvania Hall was built in 1837, the College and its preparatory school shared the new facility. Pennsylvania College drew upon its Preparatory Department for many of its students. To meet the needs of an increasing enrollment, Stevens Hall was opened in 1868, and it housed the total life of preparatory students until the building now known as Huber opened as a main facility for the Academy in 1916.

Charles Huber took pride in the program of the Academy and in the achievements of its graduates; he often mentioned that sixteen college and seminary presidents were numbered among its alumni. Huber's years of service provided a continuity of leadership for the Preparatory Department, and through his efforts the school developed into an academy. Capable masters comprised the faculty; during the later years of the school, Charles "Hips" Wolfe '23, Earl Ziegler, Martin Cronlund '29, and F. Stanley Hoffman '29 were numbered among them. The academic program included basic courses in keeping with its purpose to prepare students for college entrance. The upper classes were exposed to considerable Latin and Greek as well as required French. Suit and tie were considered regulation class dress.



Academy students conducting morning exercises, ca. 1915.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

Social life in Huber Hall centered in the large living room in the comfort of the fireplace that often provided a focus for gathering together on winter evenings. Meals were served in the large dining room on the north end of the main floor. An unforgettable sight for Gettysburg residents consisted of rows and rows of boys lined up in front of Huber Hall doing their sit-up exercises at 7:25 a.m. before the call to breakfast. Classes convened following morning services held in the chapel at the south end of the main floor.

When the rooms in both Huber and Stevens were filled, a rented house across the street accommodated the overflow of boys; known as the Junior Dormitory, it later became the Theta Chi fraternity house. As there were no dormitories available for girls, any young woman enrolled had to be considered a day student. Although a number of girls had attended the Preparatory Department, the Gettysburg Academy during the last decades of its existence was considered a boarding school for boys.

Organized activities reflected the interests of these young gentlemen. Teams from the Academy practiced and competed in football, basketball, baseball, and tennis. Formal dances in Huber Hall brought hometown girls to campus for evenings to remember. The yearbook OSOGA (Old Spirit of Gettysburg Academy) recorded these good times as well as the fun of weekend trips to OSOGA Lodge (later known as the

College Cabin), built of logs from the surrounding forests and overlooking Laurel Lake on a ridge of the South Mountain near Pine Grove Furnace. There the boys enjoyed hiking in the woods, drifting down the current in a canoe, or telling stories in the soft glow of an oil lamp.

As headmaster and teacher of Latin, Charles Huber took a keen interest in the progress of his students. Watching a boy develop and prove himself gave Dr. Huber a feeling of pride and joy, and it was his custom to extend his concern throughout each graduate's first semester at college. Former faculty and students remember his kindness, his tolerance, and his good sense of humor. He kept in close touch with the activities and behavior of the boys from his home across the street, the rambling Victorian house built for his father Eli on the site of the present Gettysburg Travelodge. Gettysburgians will remember Dr. Huber's efforts to establish the Memorial Gardens on the site of Christ Chapel to commemorate the Academy graduates who gave their lives in the Civil War, the Spanish American War, and World War I. He also helped his fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta, grade and plant Stahler Memorial Gardens on the island in the Tiber.

At a special meeting on April 4, 1935, the Board of Trustees decided to close the Academy and to convert the buildings for the admission of women students, enabling Gettysburg College to help stabilize its enrollment. Appointed as head of the Women's Division, Charles Huber shared his feelings as his work of a lifetime came to a close:

It is with no little grief and heartache that I now contemplate the passing of the old order. For forty-three years I have been connected with Gettysburg Academy; for thirty-nine of these years I have been Headmaster. My life has been bound up with boys. I have, however, recognized and accepted the inexorable logic of the changes in a rapidly changing world. . . . I shall doubtless enjoy the new and creative work, but my boys—you little rascals—I shall miss you.

Meet Cora Hartman Berkey, First Woman Graduate

[Originally published July 1980]

As the car moved along West Broadway, I scanned the numbers, attempting to identify 138. All at once the house emerged—imposing, sedate, a typical Victorian gingerbread. Its prim yellow clapboards were accentuated by an immaculate lawn and well trimmed shrubbery. I moved up the walk with my suitcases. A knock on the screendoor brought from the shaded interior the owner whose appearance and demeanor matched the house—a very old woman in an old-fashioned dress that reached her ankles and was filled out with petticoats. Her large-boned frame lent a sturdiness to her figure and, coupled with a certain freedom of movement, belied the fact that she was almost ninety-one. A penetrating gaze sought mine. I had just met Cora Berkey.

When I came to Gettysburg as a young professional in September 1961, I knew that Mrs. Berkey was the first woman to graduate from Gettysburg College, but I did not know what to expect. As the days passed and we grew to understand and appreciate each other, I began to realize that I was not only coming to know Gettysburg College, but I was gaining a sense of its past in a unique way. In the five months that I roomed at 138 West Broadway there were evenings filled with conversation while Mrs. Berkey seated in her rocker reminisced in the lamplight of her favorite nook in the dining room or in the cool comfort of the enclosed front porch.

As Cora Elizabeth Hartman she had entered Pennsylvania College in Gettysburg in the fall of 1889; her college attendance was interrupted and she later became a member of the class of 1894. During her years as a student one could enroll in either the classical or the scientific course of study. Cora Hartman chose the classical course, and to matriculate as a freshman she had to be examined in Latin grammar, three books of Caesar's *Gallic Wars*, three books of Vergil's *Aeneid*, three orations of Cicero, the metric system, elementary algebra, geometry, English grammar, spelling, and modern geography. Miss Hartman did not have a prior



This photo of Cora Elizabeth Hartman was probably taken during her senior year. She was described by her classmates as "a perfect woman, nobly planned."

Courtesy of Adams County Historical Society.

knowledge of Greek; and as it was also required, she was almost placed in the scientific course until Professor Edward S. Breidenbaugh made it known that he felt no woman should take four years of chemistry.

The class of 1894 numbered forty-seven freshmen in a total student body of 159 undergraduates. In addition to the president, there were eight professors on the faculty of Pennsylvania College when Cora Hartman was a student. "The professors certainly showed no favorites," she recalled in an interview with the *Gettysburgian* in 1942. "They expected the girls to work just as hard as the boys." Of the girls, she would often say, "We were tolerated. We were day pupils." In the interview she mentioned, "Most of the boys were very nice to us. Of course, there were a few who didn't want us. . . ."

Most of Cora Hartman's free time was spent in study. Within her academic program she took seven languages: Latin, Greek, Hebrew, German, French, Anglo-Saxon, Old English. Her extra-curricular activities included attending the meetings and orations of the Philomathean Society and the public lectures and concerts in Brua Chapel. She recalled, "There were no dances or social affairs which seem to be so important in college life today. The boys spent their spare time standing on Eckert's corner on the Square. The professors gathered at Buehler's Drug Store, while the girls' student body scattered to their homes or boarding houses."

The Pitzer House at 143 Chambersburg Street maintained high standards and adhered strictly to temperance. It was there that Cora Hartman had her room and took her meals. This boarding house was also the home base for sometimes more than twenty College and Seminary men students. Each Friday night Miss Hartman returned home for the weekend to the little village of nearby Mummasburg in a horse and buggy driven by her father. When he was occupied with farm work, she drove the horse herself, keeping it in the stable of the Pitzer House, or walked the five miles out of town when the weather was pleasant.

John and Kate Hartman's choice of Pennsylvania College for their only child had come as a second thought. After learning of the decision to send Cora to Wilson College, John Pitzer, who happened to be coming through Mummasburg, suggested that it was unnecessary to send her the long distance to Chambersburg since Pennsylvania College was now accepting women. As Cora had entered the preparatory school affiliated with the College in 1888 directly from the one-room school in Mummasburg, she also felt somewhat more acquainted. Having spent time in the army during the Civil War, John Hartman felt that he benefitted from this special training and that he wanted his daughter to have the advantages of education. In addition to paying her tuition of \$15-\$20 per term and providing funds for her room and board and the basic essentials of a student's life, he demanded that Cora keep an itemized account of every cent she spent. In later years she was to consider this attention to economy her most valuable lesson.

During the time I knew her, Mrs. Berkey contained a sense of pride in being the first woman to graduate from Gettysburg College, but she was always quick to point out that she really shared this honor with her classmate Margaret Himes, who followed her in alphabetical sequence. At one time there had been four girls in the Class of 1894; only two remained to graduate in addition to twenty-six boys. Mrs. Berkey spoke warmly of Margaret Himes, the daughter of John A. Himes, professor of English language and literature, and she remembered her as a brilliant and talented young woman with an inclination for writing poetry. She recalled also a girl whom she met in

“Prep” and who became the first woman to enter Pennsylvania College—Beulah Tipton, daughter of W.H. Tipton, well known Gettysburg photographer. Beulah matriculated in the fall of 1888 but remained enrolled for only one and one-half years.

Commencement on June 21, 1894, was held outdoors in front of the College Edifice, now known as Pennsylvania Hall. As the class did not wear academic robes, the coed graduates wore white. Cora Hartman’s dress, made by her mother, consisted of fifteen yards of China silk with a skirt five yards wide. It was also to become her wedding dress.

With marriage on June 18, 1895, to Harvey E. Berkey, a member of the class of 1892 and an 1895 graduate of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Cora Hartman became a pastor’s wife. The young couple settled in Red Lion and served a pastorate consisting of four churches in York County that required 11½ miles of travel time on dirt roads each Sunday with the aid of their dependable horse Nell.

After twenty-six years of significant service to the Lutheran Church and retirement in 1921, the Berkeys chose to return in 1924 to Gettysburg, the town they had known in their youth. When I met Mrs. Berkey she had been a widow for twenty-eight years. The need of managing for herself had developed in her a strong independence. Her alert, keen mind and amazing memory had picked up an interest in almost everything, and conversation with her could be a lively exchange of ideas and a sharing of memories. Frequently she recounted her travels—a Mediterranean cruise, tours of the Holy Land, the year spent in Germany with her husband. She had estimated that tours she took had equalled the distance of three times the circumference of the earth. She had an absorbing concern for the life of the College and the activity of the church and an interest in what was happening in the community and the world outside. It did not take long to discover that she was decided in her opinions and outspoken in expressing them.

Although the years had made Mrs. Berkey set in her ways, her remarkable activity made it impossible for one to believe her age. Gardening was a source of extraordinary pleasure for her, and one day I returned from work to find her finishing the planting of two hundred tulip bulbs. Although friends always drove her to Sunday school and church, she insisted on making her weekly pilgrimage to town for groceries on foot with the aid of her shopping cart. Before returning home, she always conceded to her one personal indulgence, a chocolate soda at the drug store.

Used to doing things for herself and liking it that way, Cora Berkey maintained a life style of simplicity. She disliked the intrusion of confusion into her quiet existence, and if things got too hectic, she resorted to what she called her “composure pill,” prescribed by her physician for such occasions. Her robust health seemed impinged only by considerably impaired eyesight during the last fifteen years of her life.

Prevailed upon to help accommodate the overflow from the dormitories after World War II, Cora Berkey, who had never had any children of her own, found herself opening her home to College boys; through the years the number totaled about sixty. Those of us who roomed there found ourselves in another era, for the furniture in the house must have been from the early days of her marriage. One gained an initial feeling of the past from the parlor, stiff and formal and seldom used. Its dark mohair furniture and its walls with family portraits in heavy frames were dressed up with doilies, lace curtains, and a large Boston fern.

We discovered that concealed within a sometimes brusque exterior there was indeed a genuine kindness in Mrs. Berkey. She lived frugally, affording only the basic necessities for herself and her home. Her spirit of generosity was directed toward the institutions and organizations whose causes she believed in: Gettysburg College, the Lutheran Theological Seminary, the Adams County Historical Society, Christ Lutheran Church. She championed the efforts of the Gettysburg Bible Society, which she served as president for forty years, and the principles of the W.C.T.U., serving as their treasurer for an equal period of time.

A benevolent giver, Mrs. Berkey was also faithful in attendance at meetings. One of my most vivid memories of her remains from a winter's night when she wore her old-fashioned hat, her long black coat, black buttoned leggings, and metal ice creepers to be picked up for a ride to the Adams County Historical Society. In the Society's library there is a tape of one of their meetings; the program is an interview with Mrs. Berkey at ninety-eight. To listen to it brings to life her indomitable spirit and a flood of memories. Taking her age into consideration, Dr. Frederick Tilberg, who interviewed Mrs. Berkey, announced brief rest periods; however, he need not have bothered, for during the third of these intervals Mrs. Berkey remarked, "I must be wearing you out!"

At the time of her death on April 24, 1969, Cora Berkey had been Gettysburg College's oldest surviving alumna, and certainly it can be said that she remains one of Gettysburg's most amazing "first ladies."

Eisenhower at Gettysburg

[Originally published July 1979]

The large red brick house sits back from the street, graced by an expanse of lawn and sheltered by the gnarled limbs of tall trees. Its sun-filled rooms have known the joys and sorrows of the generations of occupants beneath its roof, and the sound of laughter and conversation shared with friends has echoed through its hallways. Built in 1915 as the last residence of George D. Stahley, doctor of medicine and professor of biology at Gettysburg College, the house was probably the fulfillment of a dream for a man who had close ties to the College and the community. In 1867 George had arrived in Gettysburg by train as a freshman, wearing a shawl over his best suit and accompanied by his pastor, who had tutored him in Latin and Greek; in 1889 he returned to his alma mater as Dr. Stahley, its first professor of physical culture and hygiene.

Little would he have thought, as he watched the progress of construction, that the house designed for himself and his wife would attain a distinction all its own and be known for eight years among the press and in political and governmental circles as “300 Carlisle Street”—the offices of the 34th President of the United States, upon retirement. Only the delivery of bags of mail, the lingering of tourists and newcomers for a glimpse of a figure familiar to all Americans, and the brief exit or entrance of foreign dignitaries or candidates whose campaigns had made national news—only these occurrences gave the passer-by the indication that there was something out of the ordinary about the house on Carlisle Street. Those who tarried long enough to catch the sight of a black limousine maneuvered out of the driveway by a chauffeur would have been rewarded with a vigorous wave of the hand and a genial smile that broke with spontaneity and warmth upon the countenance of the passenger on the front seat. That famous grin erased any doubts that the identity of its owner was the General, Dwight David Eisenhower.

It was in March 1961 that the General and his staff began operation in the house on



Upon retiring as President of the United States, General Eisenhower used this former home for Gettysburg College presidents as his office. The building is now used by the College admissions staff. The statue of Ike is the work of Dr. Norman Annis, a former member of the College's Art Department.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

Carlisle Street. Eisenhower's son John wrote in his book, *Strictly Personal* (Doubleday & Company, Inc., c. 1974):

Fortunately, in early 1960 Major General Willard S. Paul, a retired officer now president of Gettysburg College, offered a fine building at 300 Carlisle Street, the college president's residence, for Dad's use. General Paul himself was not occupying it at the time, as he preferred to live elsewhere. The house was ideal for the Boss's office.

The offer from the College made through President Paul, who had served as head of military personnel under Eisenhower in the European Theater of Operations, was followed by the formal leasing of the house by the General Services Administration. Renovations and slight alterations were made to accommodate the building to new functions.

At 300 Carlisle Street General Eisenhower found the privacy and the quiet that he needed for writing. In his office in the northeast corner room on the second floor, he worked under contract from Doubleday, his publisher. Three volumes of memoirs resulted: *The White House Years: Mandate for Change, 1953-1956* (1963), *Waging Peace, 1956-1961* (1965); *At Ease: Stories I Tell to Friends* (1967). The General wrote in longhand on yellow legal-size pads, and his copy was then typed by a secretary to be used as an initial rough draft. His working day began with his arrival at the office at about 8:00 a.m., and it allowed time for lunch followed by a brief rest and the return to work until 5:00 or 6:00 p.m. Often his work week included Saturdays. Eisenhower genuinely enjoyed his office and the opportunity that the house afforded for ease of movement without fanfare. Although the General and Mrs. Eisenhower wintered in California, whenever they were in Gettysburg he could usually be found keeping his regular hours at 300 Carlisle Street.

A quiet atmosphere, but a very natural and normal one, pervaded the house. Mrs. Ethel Wetzel, administrative assistant, occupied the office across the hall from the General, and she remembers that he always worked with his door open and that he was busy every minute. Care was taken by the staff so as not to interrupt his concentration. Appointments and intervals for attention to correspondence were scheduled in a way that allowed him blocks of time for writing. The small sitting room and bath beyond the closed door in his office served as private quarters for the General's comfort. Across the hall on the second floor were the offices of Eisenhower's personal secretary, Warrant Officer Robert L. Huffman, in charge of correspondence, and Brigadier General Robert L. Schulz, executive assistant, who had served with the General since 1945 and who, during the Gettysburg years, managed the office.

On the first floor a conference room was provided for those occasions that demanded more space for consultation. To the left a study and a large adjoining office with facilities for the General's writing project were staffed with two persons paid by Doubleday—a secretary and a literary assistant, John Eisenhower, the General's son, from 1961-1964 and from 1965-1969 Kevin McCann, President *emeritus* of Defiance College and former speech writer and White House aide. This Doubleday office was responsible for clerical assistance, research, verification of details, and editorial sessions with the publisher's personnel who came here from New York.

In a secured area in the basement were the White House Files, 1952-1961, the Presidential papers available for immediate research and accessible only to those who knew the combinations to the door and to the cabinets inside. Top secret documents were stored in nearby Fort Ritchie for greater security. A secretarial pool

handled the General's current files in an office in a glass-enclosed sun porch at the rear of 300 Carlisle Street.

Graduate students engaged in research on the Eisenhower Years often requested an interview with the General at his office, and he arranged to see them whenever his schedule permitted. Eisenhower took delight in young people and in listening to them express their thoughts and ideas. It was the General's custom to pull out of his desk drawer a roll of silver dollars minted in 1890, the year of his birth, and to present his young visitors with one as a souvenir.

The students, the many foreign dignitaries, the political candidates, the old friends who came to 300 Carlisle Street would have noticed that the house was furnished for utilitarian purposes—simply and without unessentials. On the way to the General's office one passed a recess of shelves in the second floor hallway that displayed his awards and honors. Outside his office door on a table was a large bronze statue of another President whose name became forever linked to Gettysburg—Lincoln, seated on a bench at ease, as if ready to engage in conversation. The office itself contained mementos and family pictures in addition to some basic books for reference and a set of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. The oriental throw rug, that picked up the golden tones of the inlaid carpet, and some pieces of Steuben glass reminded the visitor that the occupant also had some interests as a collector. Paintings throughout the house—and there were some fine ones—spoke of Eisenhower's own attraction to this medium of expression. Among his favorites were one painted by Sir Winston Churchill and another by Andrew Wyeth.

The time Eisenhower spent among us had some special qualities. Dr. Carl Arnold Hanson, then President of the College, was to comment in his tribute at the memorial service for the General held at Christ Chapel on March 31, 1969:

In the years which followed, there developed an association between this man and this institution which was of growing and enduring content. For this man was not only a trustee—and he was an active and able one as long as his health permitted—he was also a resident of the campus and a keen observer of it. Thus Gettysburg College was the beneficiary of this man's presence and as well his conscious concern and interest. And in return the campus community extended to him its very open affection and perhaps even more precious, a manner of treatment which made possible for him a privacy and ease of movement for which he was genuinely appreciative. There was then between this soldier-statesman and this college an easy camaraderie which befits those who live close to one another.

For Eisenhower there were special memories, too: receiving an honorary degree, Doctor of Laws, from Gettysburg College in 1946 when he was the commencement speaker; delivering a major foreign policy address at a convocation on April 4, 1959; serving on the Board of Trustees from 1961-1969 and as honorary chairman of the Board of Associates from its founding in 1965, to 1969; throwing the first football in Musselman Stadium on September 25, 1965.

And there were other memories . . . the thirty-seven days from November 14 to December 20, 1955, when the Eisenhower farm had been designated the White House, Gettysburg, during his recuperation from a heart attack. Seated in the office of the College President in Glatfelter Hall, President Eisenhower threw a switch which turned on the lights of the national community Christmas tree in Washington, D.C., at 5:10 p.m. on December 18.

During those thirty-seven days in Gettysburg, the official offices of the President of the United States and the White House staff were temporarily located in the U.S. Post Office on Baltimore Street. The large auditorium in the annex of the Hotel Gettysburg was quickly converted by a host of carpenters, plumbers, painters, and electricians into a press room with accommodations for Press Secretary James Hagerty and his staff, TV cameras, and United Telephone and Western Union equipment. On November 14, 1955, the first press conference was held there, the first of many throughout the Eisenhower administration.

Offices for the President had also been established in Hotel Gettysburg for ease of access during recuperative periods. To the town, the Eisenhower farm, and often to the Hotel, came world figures . . . among them Jawaharlal Nehru, John Foster Dulles, General Charles de Gaulle, Sir Winston Churchill, General Alfred M. Gruenther, Field Marshall Viscount Bernard Montgomery, Chancellor Conrad Adenauer, Premier Nikita Khrushchev. A large corner suite was always held in reserve so that it would be available for important guests, and arrangements were often made for special private luncheons.

The warm associations that grew between the President and the cordial owner and manager of the Hotel Gettysburg, Henry M. Scharf, inspired Mr. Scharf to found the Eisenhower Society in 1970 to promote an understanding and appreciation of the accomplishments and personal qualities of the 34th President of the United States. Each year on October 14, the observance of Eisenhower's birthday, special tribute is paid to his life and a memorial wreath is placed at the foot of his statue on the lawn of the former office, now designated as the Eisenhower House.

While Eisenhower worked on his memoirs at 300 Carlisle Street, he must have kept company with many memories from the White House years and from the scenes of his earlier life. As he wrote, with the light from the windows filtering over his shoulders, he was also conscious of the history of his surroundings. Dwight David Eisenhower reflected in *At Ease: Stories I Tell to Friends* (Doubleday & Company, c. 1967):

As I drive between farm and office, as I sit here at my desk overlooking the road where thousands of retreating and pursuing troops poured through on a July afternoon in 1863, all about me are physical reminders that the history made here was an accumulation of little incidents, small contributions, minor braveries, and forgotten heroisms. . . .

In my mind's eye, I can see the blue uniforms as they turned again and again in brief stands against the Confederates. . . . On the field, men found in themselves resources of courage, of leadership, of greatness they had not known before.

When the General entered his office or left it, by the back door, he passed a framed hand-drawn map of the Battle of Gettysburg, evidently made by a junior Union officer. It served as another reminder to Eisenhower that he had first come to Gettysburg in 1915 with his class as a senior cadet at West Point to study the tactics of the great battle. His affection for the town and the surrounding countryside was



General Dwight D. Eisenhower in his campus office.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

to grow when he was made commander of Camp Colt, a training center for tank corps set up in the quarters left by a large infantry camp.

Camp Colt was located in the vicinity of the present Colt Park, and its tents and single-story wooden barracks were strung along the west side of the Emmitsburg Road about as far as the Codori farmhouse. Here the young commander was to display the “unusual zeal, foresight and marked ability in the organization and preparations for overseas service of the technical troops” that were to result in his being awarded the Distinguished Service Medal in 1922. Here he was to discover the hospitality and generosity of the people of Gettysburg when the influenza epidemic of 1918 swept through the camp taking the lives of 175 men and leaving hundreds seriously ill.

Remembering his early months in Gettysburg, President Eisenhower told his audience at the 1959 convocation at Gettysburg College:

I am reminded also that I owe this institution a personal debt of gratitude. During the 86th year of its existence—41 years ago—Gettysburg College, through some of its fraternities, made available a home for my family and me during the months we served here in World War I. I am happy to have the opportunity, again, to thank the entire Gettysburg College family for its thoughtfulness in arranging for us, in the crowded community of that war year, a much needed place to live.

The President was referring to the former Alpha Tau Omega house on North Washington Street across from the College campus and to a residence on Springs Avenue that had been the former home of members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Years later, in 1955, the Eisenhowers returned to spend time at their farm on land located just behind Confederate lines. The farmhouse that the Eisenhowers had rebuilt had its own history of almost two hundred years, and it was to become their first permanent home. After the General's death, Mrs. Eisenhower took her husband's place on the Board of Associates at Gettysburg College. At the commencement exercises in 1970 the College awarded her an honorary degree, Doctor of Laws.

In the years that General Eisenhower spent among us at Gettysburg College, we had in our midst a special person. Those who came to know him found that he exuded friendliness and contained a casualness that put people at ease. He could relate to cooks or kings and seemed to enjoy the company of both. His warmth for people escaped in a smile that was contagious and that betrayed as well a keen enjoyment of life.

Mrs. Ethel Wetzel, his administrative assistant at 300 Carlisle Street, described the General as “a wonderful human being.” Those who worked with him on a day-to-day basis found that the image that the American people had of him was, indeed, the kind of person he really was. In being genuine, he was also “down-to-earth,” sincere, tactful in handling people and situations, considerate of those on his staff, and a hard worker who demanded the best from himself.

On June 12, 1945, in a ceremony honoring him in London's historic Guildhall, General Eisenhower told the British: “I come from the very heart of America.” It was there that he wanted to return on his final journey—to Abilene—to the Kansas of his boyhood. For Kansas had shaped him with its roughhewn, straightforward ways, its frontier determination and exuberance; Kansas with its plains a burst of loveliness in springtime, ablaze with heat and ripening grain in summer; Kansas with its harsh, cold winters and its firesides—a time for telling stories; Kansas, a triumph of harvest in autumn.

As we salute Eisenhower the former camp commander, Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, President of Columbia University, Supreme Commander of NATO Forces, 34th President of the United States, gentleman farmer, and author, we realize that for a time we truly had among us a man for all seasons.

OF BRICKS, MORTAR, AND MEMORIES: BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS



*I hereby express my sincere sorrow
for attempting, with others, on
the night of Oct. 31st, 1892, to
put a cow into the vestibule of
Brua Chapel, and I declare and
promise, as a condition of my
restoration to the privileges of
the Institution that I will abstain
from similar and all disorderly
conduct during the remainder of
my course. Dec. 6th 1892
George E. Hipsley*

Faculty Minute Book

Return to Center Stage: The Life and Times of Brua Hall

[Originally Published December 1984]

A large crowd had gathered on the afternoon of June 27, 1888, despite the rain. Old grads, graduating seniors, underclassmen, and townspeople huddled under umbrellas as they witnessed the ceremony marking the laying of the cornerstone of the new building, a classroom facility now known as Glatfelter Hall. After the speech and the benediction, the local photographer W.H. Tipton captured the scene with his camera, and the crowd moved on, to the spot designated for the groundbreaking of Brua Memorial Chapel.

These two events formed the highlight for graduation time at Pennsylvania College in 1888, and those who witnessed them realized that the occasion had drawn more than the usual commencement crowd to the town of Gettysburg. Excitement concerning construction of the new buildings remained high. Intended to complement each other, both structures were built of local brick and Hummelstown brownstone and were designed in the Romanesque style by the York architect John A. Dempwolf, with William A. Slagle of Hanover as contractor.

The chapel for Pennsylvania College became a reality through the generosity of Lieutenant Colonel John P. Brua, who contributed \$15,000 as a memorial to his parents, John Peter Brua and Catherine Rupley Brua, staunch Lutherans. The Colonel, who had been a paymaster in the Union Army during the Civil War, had grown up in Harrisburg. There his father, a native of Berks County, made his livelihood as a carpenter and earned a place in the community as a member of the borough council, the board of county commissioners, and the council of Zion Lutheran Church.



When, on the first morning after your arrival you have arisen from your couch, arranged your toilet and broken your fast, you will do well to fully compose yourself, for soon you will hear the sonorous sounds of a bell. That is the "Chapel Bell" – a bell which you will soon learn to love, hailing its music with joy and pleasure. It will ever be the delight of your heart during your college course, and the remembrance of it, the comfort of your declining years. Spectrum, 1892.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

Experiences during the years of the Civil War prompted Colonel Brua to consider a monument on the battlefield of Gettysburg as a memorial to his parents. Conversation with trustees from Pennsylvania College made him aware that plans for a chapel in the new recitation building had to be omitted as funds were scant. Convinced that a chapel would provide a more fitting tribute, he acted upon his intentions. Later he became ill during a visit to Atlantic City, and his unexpected death occurred prior to groundbreaking.

After the foundations took shape, the memory of Colonel Brua was perpetuated during the laying of the cornerstone by President Harvey McKnight in an impressive ceremony on May 16, 1889.

As construction progressed, the seventy-foot tower rose at the southeast corner of the building, and the apse at the north side was completed. Plans for a seating capacity of 750 allowed for a partition to separate the apse from the main auditorium, when occasion warranted. A platform designed as a stage was placed to the south, and galleries on either side of it could be reached by a staircase in the tower. Plans for the interior included wainscoting and an exposed ceiling, its beams ribbed and carved.

From its location beyond the main entrance to the College, it was intended that Brua Chapel become a focal point in the life of students. The only College building mentioned in the alma mater, Brua was the one place that the students gathered together in community. Its thrust was to be not only a sanctuary for worship but also an auditorium for campus meetings and cultural events. A student in 1915 described the scene in the *Gettysburgian*: "Before the exercise proper, the college men arose and gave their class yells for one another and the new entering class. The Seniors first, followed by the Juniors and Sophomores. This noisy expression of joy is always a feature of the opening of college." In Brua, the graduating seniors received their diplomas at the solemnity of commencement, held there until the late 1920s.

Gettysburgians also remember the compulsory morning chapel services filled with scripture reading, hymn singing, Christian messages, and announcements that kept the student body informed. Memories that linger center especially on the Wednesday inspirational talks by President Henry W.A. Hanson, urging attention to the qualities essential to a "Gettysburg gentleman."

Morning chapel was not without its lighter moments as the constraints it imposed offered a productive arena for mischief. Distractions could be expected by those duty-bound to ensure the continuance of the services. Favorite disruptive tactics included removing the hymn books, painting the seats with molasses, sprinkling sneezing powder about, setting alarms to go off at intervals, putting Limberger cheese on the radiators, and even releasing pigeons into the air. Student proctors taking attendance could note the presence of dogs, fraternity mascots that attended chapel regularly with their masters and sometimes wandered about the auditorium or trotted onto the stage.

In December 1926 the women enrolled in Gettysburg, still primarily a men's college, petitioned the faculty that they be allowed to attend morning services in Brua Chapel, much to the puzzlement of their male counterparts. Their request was granted, and they were allowed to sit in the unused balcony to the left of the stage.

The daily gathering in Brua provided an opportunity for students to vote on matters of concern or to participate in polls taken by the *Gettysburgian*. Here a new plan of student government, the Campus Senate, was approved in 1942. Here

Gettysburgians overwhelmingly endorsed Wendell Wilkie and Thomas Dewey as Presidential candidates. Here the majority voted in 1938 in favor of staying out of war at all costs but agreeing to bear arms should war become inevitable. During rush week each Gettysburg man received a sealed envelope in chapel containing bids from the fraternities on campus that had voted upon him as a pledge for the brotherhood.

Unforgettable were the inspections after morning chapel! Last to leave, the freshmen encountered the sophomores in wait for a check on dinks and the black tie and socks demanded by customs. A mad scramble of bodies tumbled on the grass as class met class. Sometimes the sophomores nailed one section of the Chapel door to prevent the frosh from making a mass exit. Fearing that the tradition would lose its vigor, a student wrote in the 1930 issue of the *Gettysburgian*:

There was no inspection after the first regular Chapel of the year, and such oversight could hardly be accidental. Perhaps the fighting freshmen of last year have lost their notable gusto. . . . Upperclassmen stood around the door in vain. There was nothing to watch—no trousers hastily rolled about the hose line—no matches displayed—no dinks held grimly on tossed heads—no bloody noses—no shouts or grass-stained garments. Where is the gusto of yesterday?

During football season, Brua Chapel resounded with the cheers and shouts produced by rousing pep rallies led by the president of the student body assisted by the coach. It was noted that during a rally in 1920 “students made enough noise to loosen the foundations.”

There were solemn moments. Seriously ill students were taken to the President’s home, the White House, for special attention and nursing care. If death occurred, the body sometimes lay in state in Brua Chapel prior to a funeral service attended by students and faculty before the coffin was carried by train from Gettysburg.

Custodian Joseph Carver, who functioned amazingly as a one-man maintenance department, wound the clock in Glatfelter tower and rang the bell to announce classes and morning chapel with a built-in sense of regularity. (Perhaps he was on speaking terms with the large family of monkey-faced owls that made their home for years in the tower of Brua Chapel.)

A native of Italy, Joe, as he was known on campus, lived with his wife and five children in a brick house located behind Glatfelter Hall. Unusually devoted and industrious, he served the College for fifty-three years, joining the staff in 1913. As he discussed the College boys in an interview with the *Gettysburgian*, Joe Carver commented, “When I get up in the morning, I wouldn’t be surprised at anything.”

One of his biggest surprises had been the theft of the clapper from the College bell, and its presentation to him a few years later melted down into a watch fob!

From its beginning Brua Chapel became a place of interchange for town and gown as local residents flocked to the annual series of lectures, concerts, and entertainments sponsored by the College Y.M.C.A. The seating chart was held at Buehler’s Drug Store on Chambersburg Street, where tickets could be purchased for twenty-five to thirty-five cents. Different from the customary engagements, picture plays attracted large audiences, for the performer illustrated a story or topic with stereoptican views projected on a large canvas. On occasion, a magician, a physiognomist, or an elocutionist on the Brua stage entertained a full house.

Many townspeople attended evenings of local College talent as they enjoyed the strains of the Banjo, Mandolin, and Guitar Clubs, often in concert with the Glee Club. The excitement of debates drew others as one class pitted itself against another on the issues of the day.

On the evening of June 16, 1914, the first Owl and Nightingale production, Edmund Rostand's "The Romancers," was staged in the open air on a slight rise west of Brua Chapel. "The Arrival of Kitty," presented on December 12, 1914, was the first of a long succession of O & N productions on the Brua stage. Under the direction of the incomparable Dr. Richard A. Arms, head of the Mathematics Department, the activities of Owl and Nightingale gained enthusiasm and momentum. His love of the theater and his deep interest in writing, reading, and producing plays was contagious.

Thus, the fun of grease paint and the excitement of the footlights rubbed off on generations of Gettysburg thespians who knew "Doc" Arms sometime during his forty years of directing plays at the College. The close association of Owl and Nightingale with Brua Chapel was interrupted in 1927 by the prospect of larger facilities in the newly-built Eddie Plank Gymnasium.

An announcement in the *Gettysburgian* urged men and women interested in the performance of sacred music to attend a meeting at Brua Chapel on October 16, 1935, to form a College choir. It was the beginning of the Gettysburg College Choir under the direction of Parker B. Wagnild. By December, the choir had received rave reviews on its first concert in Brua. Patterned in style and repertoire on the famed St. Olaf Choir, this new musical group drew upon the talent and sensitivity of "Wags," who became beloved as friend during his forty-one years as director.

After the building of Christ Chapel in 1953, Brua Memorial Chapel was converted to offices, studios, classrooms, and practice rooms for the Music Department, with rededication on November 6, 1958. The renovation of Schmucker Hall in 1982 into a facility for art and music has allowed the stage in Brua to turn full circle in 1984, a return to drama in the splendid setting of the Kline Theatre.

Weidensall Revisited

[Originally published April 1983]

The huge white columns stood out stark and solitary against the darkening sky—grim reminders of what had once been a handsome Georgian building. By nightfall the blaze began again and yet again, and firemen had to quench the flames five times by morning. Word had been shouted across campus that Weidensall was on fire!

More than one hundred students rushed into the building to save furniture, equipment, and records. Others worked side by side with firemen from the surrounding areas in their attempts to fight the fire that raged for three hours. Their efforts were hampered by hoses that burst under pressure—equipment that could not be replaced during the war years. Those who remained on the scene watched the roof cave in and heard the crash as the cornices collapsed. “The steel super-structure of the upper floors,” observed a student, “twisted and bent into grotesque shapes and forms.” The fire gutted the rooms on the first and second floors, and the charred framework smoldered among the debris.

For alumni the destruction of Weidensall Hall by fire on November 23, 1946, stirred many memories; this building had been a center of student activity for twenty-four years. There were members of the faculty on campus who remembered when it had been dedicated with glowing pride on June 13, 1922, and alumni who recalled their labors as part of the student groups that excavated for the foundations and the swimming pool. Containing the names of over two thousand contributors in its cornerstone, Weidensall had become a tribute to the zeal and devotion of the members of the Woman’s League of Gettysburg College, who raised \$70,000 toward its erection and \$5,000 for equipment.

Popularly known as the Y Building, the new facility was named in honor of Robert Weidensall, Class of 1860, the first traveling secretary of the YMCA, who spent a lifetime pioneering to expand the organization throughout the Middle West. Founded in March 1867 in a room in Pennsylvania Hall, the local college group had



Student life and activities at Weidensall.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

the distinction of being the first college YMCA in Pennsylvania. Monthly meetings were chaired by its first president, Edward S. Breidenbaugh, Class of 1868, later professor of chemistry and mineralogy. Members gathered for discussions and addresses by students, professors, or invited guests. Emphasis centered on prayer meetings, missions, and Bible study. As early as 1868 the Y began sponsoring the Lecture Course, a series of lectures, concerts and entertainments held for town and gown in Brua Chapel.

The opening of Weidensall in 1922 signaled the beginning of its life as probably the first building in the state erected solely for the purpose of college Y work. Within its walls the large lobby with mosaic floor, paneled ceiling, and fireplace offered an attractive setting for student gatherings. The game room on the first floor, the conference rooms, an auditorium on the second floor, and a swimming pool on the ground floor enhanced the total Y program and provided the first place on campus that offered accommodations for student socializing.

During the 1920s the Y continued its evangelical and missionary thrust. As the mood of the country shifted, discussion groups sponsored by the Y in fraternities and dormitories emphasized not only campus problems but also national issues and world concerns. The Y also incorporated more fully a program of recreation for the young men of the College. Freshmen were welcomed at the Annual Y Reception, a campus tradition since 1886. At this first big College event of the year, students and professors gathered on the steps of Weidensall by the light of a campfire to cheer speeches, applaud entertainment, and join in good fellowship. Within the meeting rooms of Weidensall the members compiled the freshman handbook, the *G-Book*, a Y publication since 1895. Both freshmen and upperclassmen were encouraged to write home from the reading room, at the desk equipped for their convenience with paper, envelopes, pens, and ink.

The campus community eagerly anticipated the annual Y carnival and its atmosphere of fun and frolic. The *Gettysburgian* took note in November 1923 of the occasion in Weidensall lobby and observed that “the happy crowd that attended the Carnival at the Y last Tuesday were amazed, aghast and appalled by the revealed ingenuity of those who arranged the successful event. . . . The man who missed the Bayrum and Barely Zoo, missed half of his college education.” Those who went through the “Chamber of Horrors” in the basement heard “the groans of the dying and the voices of the dead. For one to describe the inmates of the place was impossible.”

The stimulus and direction of Y work and the activities of Weidensall Hall were generated through the guidance of the General Secretary, a part-time post originally funded by the Woman’s League to insure the continuance of organized religious activity on campus. A strong figure in Y work during the earlier days, Bill Wood, football coach and professor of mathematics, directed the program from 1924 to 1927. His magnetic personality and rugged faith influenced especially the athletes with whom he worked and fostered a spirit of Christian fellowship and goodwill on the playing field. In the years that followed, the post was frequently held by Seminary students on a short-term basis.

With the appointment of the Rev. Donald R. Heiges ’31 as general secretary and assistant professor of philosophy, in 1935, the thrust of the organization returned to its original purpose: “the acceptance by students of Christ as their Saviour and

deepening fellowship with Him as their Lord.” During his nine years of service, Professor Heiges worked with vigor and commitment to enhance religious activity on campus and extended warm concern and interest in the total life of students as counselor and friend. Student involvement zoomed, and Weidensall hummed with activity. As the program developed, students found themselves taking on new responsibilities and assuming roles of leadership.

National trends and the official acceptance of women as students at Gettysburg were reflected in the transformation from YMCA to Student Christian Association in 1935. As a result of the activities that took place there, Weidensall began to be known as the SCA Building. The monthly meetings of the organization became campus events known as SCA Nights, incorporating speakers, forums, discussions, or debate. Those who became actively involved also attended Sunday night vespers and urged others to come until the auditorium in Weidensall filled and additional chairs had to be procured. Gettysburg students gathered in the lobby for Fireside Hours, sought sustenance in devotions by candlelight or the support offered by a prayer circle, reveled with ghouls at Halloween parties that stretched from attic to basement, or joined with hearty singing of carols at the traditional Christmas party. The meeting rooms buzzed with SCA committees engaged in planning.

As Weidensall and its activity permeated the campus, other groups began to consider this building as a center of campus life. In order to maintain proper custodial care, several College boys roomed on the second and third floors, and the appearance of Weidensall became their responsibility. A crowded activities schedule accommodated meetings of the *Spectrum* editors and the staff of the *Gettysburgian*, the hearings of the Tribunal as it reviewed trespasses of freshman customs, and rehearsals of the College Choir.

As war clouds gathered and the mood of the campus reflected uncertainties precipitated by the draft, the tempo of Weidensall as a student center changed. During the winter of 1943 breakfast was served at 5:30 a.m. in Weidensall by the coeds for Gettysburg College boys, reserves on their way to Fort Meade, MD. By spring 550 army aircrew trainees had arrived on campus. As the government had not provided for the personal counseling and spiritual welfare of the men, the College established the position of the chaplaincy so that Professor Heiges could minister to the entire student population on campus. Weidensall as a home away from home bustled with their comings and goings. Many of the fellows dropped in to listen to the radio, read the newspapers and magazines, or write letters home. By evening hundreds of men invaded the building to visit with their buddies, listen to the record player, bang noisily away at shuffle board, splash about the swimming pool, or challenge a friend to ping pong. “Between 7:00 and 8:30 we forget we’re in the



The snack bar in Weidensall.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

army . . .,” commented one of the men. “The presence of the coeds makes this a very interesting army post. We feel more like college students than soldiers.” The *Gettysburgian* observed Open House at Weidensall: “[If you] drop into the auditorium, you will be apt to see great numbers of youthful males dressed in the latest zoot-suit styles . . . you know, those form-fitting, custom-made G.I.O.D.’s that the fashionable young man is wearing this fall. . . . It’s merely an informal get-together, breaking the ice with a nice coed, and learning to dance at the same time.”

The end of the duration . . . peace . . . a campus crowded with returning veterans claiming their right to a college education . . . and then the fire, caused by defective wiring. The charred wood and the gutted walls marked the end of an era for Weidensall. During the process of reconstruction a U.S. Army Air Force officers’ club, reassembled on the site of the present McCreary Life Sciences Building, served as a temporary recreation center.

On November 4, 1948, a rededication service officially opened the present building—Weidensall complete with two new wings. Although the new additions provided more space, the student body began to voice opinions in favor of a building that could more fully accommodate the social life of Gettysburg College students. When the College Union became a reality in 1959 and the programs centered on religious experience became identified with Christ Chapel, Weidensall, in 1960, assumed its present role as a classroom building.

Last summer Weidensall underwent still another renovation. As one walks through its handsomely refurbished offices, classrooms and seminar rooms that serve as a center for the history, philosophy and classic departments, it is difficult to imagine the building’s “other life.” Yet, to one who remembers the past, on a quiet evening the rooms still echo with the lively strains of the “Virginia Reel” and the shouts and laughter of students enjoying entertainment and fellowship.

To Plant a Tree, To Plant a Dream: The Campus Landscape Transformed

[Originally published April 1986]

With each returning spring I remember it—a canopy of blossoms delicate in their shading from pink to rose, touched with white, supported by a cluster of gnarled and twisted trunks. Looking down on these Japanese crab apple trees from my vantage point at a second floor window in Schmucker Memorial Library was like being on the other side of a cloud. These four trees entwined south of McKnight Hall are gone now, worn as they were by age and stormy weather. The unforgettable loveliness of their flowering remains as springtime comes again, and I feel a surge of gratitude and amazement when I think about the enthusiasm and dedication of the students who must have planted them almost sixty years ago.

Headlines in the *Gettysburgian* of April 27, 1927, informed readers: “Trees Arrive for ‘Campus Beautiful’; College Purchases Japanese Crab Apple Trees for Planting on Campus.” Anyone who pursued the article would have discovered that this shipment of one hundred trees was the first step in the implementation of a beautification program sponsored by the administration to improve the campus in anticipation of the centennial celebration in 1932. The choice of three varieties of double blossom crab apple trees had been prompted by the attraction of the cherry blossoms in Washington, D.C., and the hope of similar loveliness for tourists in Gettysburg with a burst of color for the Mother’s Day program on campus.

The Campus Beautiful Club began their project in 1927 with the planting of twenty-four large Austrian and white pines. Later the group planted Norway maples, American elms, Lombardy poplars, sycamores, magnolias, and red buds. Work was begun on a natural setting to screen the railroad by planting forsythia, dogwood, spirea, snowballs, and barberry; the decision to use evergreens was finally made, and



Swans on the Tibur

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

Norway spruce were selected to complete the view.

In commemoration of the Centennial of Gettysburg College over one hundred trees were planted by students on the anniversary of Founders' Day, April 7, 1932. Each student who participated paid \$1.00 for a tree to plant and nurture. The Campus Beautiful Club members designed a bed in front of Glatfelter Hall to form a large G, shaped by two hundred golden-orange crocuses bordered by two hundred crocuses of lavender blue. As warm weather beckoned, the campus awakened to the jaunty colors of daffodils and tulips and the softer hues of hyacinths and iris. In summertime the beds were filled with bright and smiling marigolds, zinnias, four o'clocks, petunias, dahlias. The athletic field and the tennis courts on Lincoln Avenue took on a new look, bordered as they were by 175 climbing rosebushes.

In 1926 the College had engaged a landscape architect from the Berryhill Nursery in Harrisburg to design a set of plans for improvement of the grounds. In response, President Henry W.A. Hanson committed the institution to a beautification plan, "Campus Beautiful." There were also large projects on the horizon: the erection of a portico on the north side of Pennsylvania Hall, the building of a library on the site of Cottage Hall, the removal of the old chemistry laboratory and the janitor's residence, and the construction of a driveway with a new gateway between McKnight Hall and Weidensall Hall. Landscaping had been contracted for two new buildings—Breidenbaugh Hall and Eddie Plank Memorial Gymnasium. To complete the "Campus Beautiful" plan, approximately 1400 items would need to be acquired and planted—an enormous undertaking in both expense and manpower.

On the evening of October 19, 1927, a group of twelve students met at the College president's home, the White House, to discuss plans for work on the grounds and help in planting, weeding, and caring for new plantings. The President's wife, Mrs. Henry W.A. Hanson, and Mr. Charles Huber, head master of the Gettysburg Academy, shared in the plans. The moving force in the group that night, Dr. Frank Kramer '14, had sparked the effort and drew the neophytes together in a formal organization—the Campus Beautiful Club.

Assistant to the President and head of the Education Department, Frank Kramer had been impressed by the beds of flowers at Oxford University during a trip to Europe the previous summer and came back with dreams for the Gettysburg campus. Thus, the club began—seasonal and often sporadic in its existence—yet possessed with an amazing capacity for hard work and endurance under the vigorous direction and inspiration of Dr. Kramer. From 1927-1934 the members planted hundreds of trees, thousands of shrubs, and bulbs, and more than ten thousand flowering plants. Many of the older trees that we enjoy on campus are reminders of their efforts.

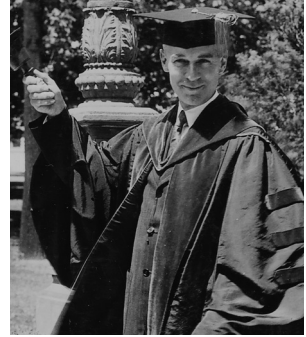
In the first season of work—autumn 1927—the Campus Beautiful Club planted over five hundred trees and shrubs. By October 1928 their total efforts had reached 4016 plantings; the members had raised 878 of these from seed and 299 from cuttings in a nursery they had set up near the steam plant behind Glatfelter Hall. The Daughters of the American Revolution provided forty trees to be placed along the new gateway at Washington and Stevens Streets. By 1928 friends of the College had donated 592 plants, 1875 bulbs, and 297 shrubs, while others provided funds for the purchase of plantings.

Expressing her own love for flowers, Mrs. Henry W.A. Hanson was responsible for many of the unusual flowers planted around the lily pond near the White House. As

flowers were chosen for the campus setting, the colors orange and blue were used whenever possible. The Club had introduced the orange calendula as the College flower.

The energy and enthusiasm for this project were propelled by Dr. Frank Kramer, whose keen interest in plants and gardening knew no bounds. His own backyard provided testimony to his excitement for things botanical. It was a wild, untamed oasis—its footage scarcely able to contain either the enthusiasm or the plantings of the owner. Dr. Kramer was deeply proud of his garden, and visits to it were part of the walking tour scheduled for Mother's Day and Father's Day, College events begun through his suggestion and continued under his direction.

Cacti had become his indoor gardening passion; there were cacti everywhere, even in the furnace room. A visitor to the Kramer house on West Broadway might find the Doctor engrossed in classifying or repotting his collection. It was this sense of unbounded enthusiasm for green growing things that inspired the College students to name the lily pond created by Dr. Kramer to provide drainage for the overflow of water from the old pump near the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity house (later Stahley Hall), in honor of the good Doctor—a marvelous name, "Kramer's Kidney"!



Professor Frank Kramer

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

Frank Kramer was devoted to students inside and outside the classroom. He had a friendly greeting for those he met as he hurried across campus on his way to class—a bundle of books under his arm, his eyes atwinkle, and his sturdy figure alive with energy. The generations of Gettysburgians who attended his education classes were influenced by his practical solid approach to classroom teaching when they later became teachers themselves.

Dr. Kramer often invited students for dinner, and each year he shared his home with men students in need of a place to live. Frank Kramer's genial affability complemented many a social gathering. At freshman mixers he was the life of the party, and he could usually be persuaded to lead the singing of two favorites, "Around Her Hair She Wore a Yellow Ribbon" and "Ham and Eggs". A longtime adviser to Phi Sigma Kappa, Dr. Kramer endeared himself to the brothers by his warm concern for their welfare and his endless patience and kindness. It was his custom to drop in on all the fraternities to chat and to attend social functions.

The cordial relationships Frank Kramer shared on campus and in the community brought the interest of many friends to the Campus Beautiful project. He encouraged the fraternities to join in the efforts by landscaping the grounds near their houses.

In 1931 Phi Gamma Delta, with the assistance of the Campus Beautiful Club under the direction of Dr. Charles Huber, a brother, made a major contribution to the landscaping project with the planting of the Stahler Memorial Gardens along the banks of the Tiber. More than seventy varieties of flowers and shrubs mentioned in the plays of William Shakespeare were chosen for inclusion.

These lovely gardens were created to recognize the loyalty of their former brother, Harry L. Stahler, Class of 1882, who had willed his fraternity a legacy of over \$25,000. Harry Stahler remained unforgettable for his unswerving support of Gettysburg College. During his years as an alumnus he could be found cheering in

the crowds at football and baseball games. He would arrive from Norristown in an enormous automobile custom-painted orange and blue, accompanied by his chauffeur and a load of Phi Gamms.

The Stahler Memorial Gardens became part of a larger plan to enhance the campus along the banks of the Tiber. A rock garden was planted near a little bridge close to Washington Street. The upper part of the stream was dammed where the two branches came together, thereby forming a lagoon; an island was constructed in the center. College couples could reach this romantic spot by crossing a small stone bridge to sit on benches under the trees.

In October 1933 Mr. and Mrs. Cordes, who lived on West Broadway, presented the College with a most unusual gift—a pair of white swans for the lagoon. Providing charm for this picturesque setting, the two were named Hansel and Gretel, and they became an unforgettable attraction. A shelter provided for them on the island offered protection in rough weather. On occasion they had to be freed from the ice that formed in winter.

In February 1936 Gretel died, a victim of attack by dogs that cornered her on the frozen Tiber. Disconsolate, Hansel finally accepted the companionship of two ducks, Ted and Charlie, donated by Ted Thomas '38 and Charlie Goff '38, who had won them at the South Mountain Fair by throwing hoops around their necks. Two years later Dr. Percy D. Hoover '95 introduced Romeo and Juliet, another pair of beautiful white swans to float gracefully with Hansel on the lagoon.

Springtime and blossoms at Gettysburg College found students primed for the festive event of the season—the Mother's Day Program, highlighted by the crowning of the May Queen. The Queen and her attendants held court in the formal gardens that stretched between Stevens Hall and the site of Christ Chapel. These lovely flowers were planted through the initiative of Dr. Charles Huber in memory of the graduates of the Gettysburg Academy who gave their lives in the Civil War, the Spanish American War, and World War I. A little stream, Stevens Run, flowed through the grounds, and frequently the May Queen and her court would pose on the arch of the white stone bridge for photographs.

Although the gardens are gone, the photographs remain to remind us of another era—another place in time—when student life was different and the world outside moved in a different tempo. Yet on a bright spring morning the wind still sweeps through the great white pines that accent Pennsylvania Hall, and as the light fades, the leaves of trees planted on campus so many years ago whisper softly in the evening shadows.

A Closing of Chapters: The College Library in Metamorphosis

[Originally published August 1981]

The reading room had been deserted. The flurry of the last check-out of books had subsided, and the barrage of reference questions that accompanies the approach of spring break was over. Gone were the sounds and movements that translate youthful energies eager for respite from the pressures of the academic year and ready to leave for the ride home.

This ebb and flow had always been part of the cycle. This year it was to be different; after serving fifty-two years of Gettysburgians, Schmucker would close its doors as a library and enter a new phase of renovation as a center for art and music. By chance I happened to be the only person on duty to close the building at the end of one of the last days of operation. Somehow this task that had often been mine as a young librarian suddenly seemed so right—a spontaneous farewell to a building that had become entwined in twenty years of my professional life. As I walked through the silent rooms, memories broke

loose, and I was jogged again by the close relationship between this building and myself. I remembered the excitement and the challenge of the Septembers I had known there, each the genesis of a year peopled with students and faculty, their needs and problems. Nor would I forget the summer nights working alone on my own research within its cool recesses, conscious only of its companionability, while the campus outside was devoid of life and tempo, basking in isolation.

I recalled the beginning of our acquaintance and my first night on duty as the term opened in September 1961, working alone and servicing a reference department set up with rows and rows of books on tables in the main reading room. This temporary state was Schmucker in another phase of transition—the construction of a new addition that would double floor space and greatly increase shelving and seating capacity. While we maintained full service to the College community amidst the activity of electricians,



The library in Glatfelter Hall from the 1898 Spectrum.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

plasterers, and painters, the interior took shape. The first reference desk took over space once occupied by the original front door. The reference collection was transplanted in what had once been the foyer, lined with Italian marble wainscoting and formerly the introduction to a magnificent marble staircase that led to the formal reading room above.

As we became acclimated, I was surprised by the number of reminders of the mode of library service of bygone eras that had surfaced in Schmucker: the dumbwaiter, used to bring periodicals from the closed stacks to the circulation desk; catalog cards printed prim and proper by the hand of Miss Carrie Musselman; the first book charging machine, purchased in 1930, a tiny clunking Dickman model operated by hand; the first guide to the library, compiled in 1941. In April 1981, while we packed to move from Schmucker into a new building, my thoughts turned again to how the library had really begun and what traces of its early life might remain in the records of the College.

In the pages of a worn ledger the handwriting of John G. Morris, secretary, recorded the Board of Trustees' decision of April 15, 1834: "Resolved. That \$500 be expended to the purchase of an incipient College library; and That President Krauth, Prof. Smucker [sic], J.G. Morris be requested to make the Selections." As funds were not available, the committee was authorized to borrow the money. For struggling Pennsylvania College that opened its doors on High Street two years before, it was a beginning.

By October the book collection numbered seven hundred, a figure swelled by the generosity of William Gwyn Jones of Baltimore, who contributed a large number of books. The original book catalog charts their entry, and from the cramped handwriting we know that the first book added was *Theron and Aspasio*. This little leatherbound book still survives and announces that it is *A Series of Dialogues and Letters Upon The Most Important and Interesting Subjects*, by the Late Reverend James Harvey, published in Edinburgh in 1796. Books in history, literature, philosophy, natural history, and biography formed the early nucleus of the new collection.

As early as September 1834 the Board of Trustees encountered the issue of censorship. Thomas J. Cooper, one of their members, objected to certain novels that had been added to the library and made a motion that they be removed. After debating the issue, the Board voted on the motion of Thaddeus Stevens that the matter be postponed indefinitely. It had also been decided at the same meeting that \$100 would be appropriated annually to increase the book collection, but this support was rescinded two years later by Samuel Simon Schmucker and replaced by a library fee of \$1.00 per year to be paid by each student using the library.

The problems of space and an appropriate place to house the library became the most critical issues faced by those responsible for its existence, and these needs were to echo throughout the years of its history. For Professor Michael Jacobs, unanimously chosen by his colleagues as the first person to serve as College librarian, the library became an added responsibility to his already heavy schedule as professor of mathematics, chemistry, and natural science. As the collection began to take shape through purchases and gifts, the books crowded his recitation room and it became necessary to locate a suitable room for the library as the College had no available space. At the meeting of the Trustees on April 23, 1835, John B. McPherson announced that a room had been rented from Professor Jacobs himself at ten dollars a year.

Thus it was that the library became located in the large red brick house on the northwest corner of Washington and Middle Streets. The students from Pennsylvania College who came to the Jacobs' residence to borrow books from the library had to abide by regulations established by the faculty. Hours of service were confined to Saturdays between 11:00 a.m. and 12 noon. Each student had the right to borrow one large book or two smaller books for one week. To increase security for the valued collection, it was understood that "No student shall be permitted to take any books from the shelves but must apply to the librarian."

With the building of the College Edifice, now known as Pennsylvania Hall, the library was moved to the new facility in 1837. At that time the collection included almost one thousand books and was located in the large room on the north side of the third floor, now known as the Lyceum. The catalog for that year announced that "A *Reading-Room*, containing some of the most valuable Journals and Magazines of the day, is open to subscribers during hours of recreation."

The literary societies, Phrenakosmian and Philomathean, that met in their halls on the fourth floor of Pennsylvania Hall prided themselves in the libraries and reading rooms they fostered for the use of their members. By 1863 the College catalog listed the volumes owned by Phrena as 4,600 with Philo, a close second, claiming 4,300; in comparison the College Library recorded a total of 5,600. In the hot July days that summer, the tramp of boots on the stairs and the cries of the wounded echoed through the society halls and the College reading rooms and libraries. Furniture was stripped from these rooms, and walls and floor and books were stained with blood as the College Edifice became a temporary hospital.

By 1882 the room in Pennsylvania Hall had become crowded, and the administration decided to expand service to students by opening the library one hour each weekday, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., with a proctor in charge. During the months of construction of the building, known as Recitation Hall and later as Glatfelter Hall, plans were made to locate the library in a large room on the north end of the first floor. The move was made during the summer of 1889 when the classifying and cataloging of the collection was begun by Professor John A. Himes. Apparently the community participated in the new venture, for the *Pennsylvania College Monthly* of October 1888 announced that "There will be an excursion to Washington, D.C., on Thursday, Oct. 4th, under the auspices of the town committee in charge of raising funds for furnishing the library hall in the new building." In 1890 after the move was accomplished, library hours were expanded to 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with service also on Saturday mornings. Evening hours were not scheduled until 1909.

In order to make possible greater use of the collection, Miss Sallie P. Krauth was appointed in 1890 as the first full-time library employee at a salary of \$200 per year; she was responsible to the faculty member assigned supervision of the library. Strict regulations were enforced, and access to materials was difficult. The *Spectrum* of 1898 contains a photograph of the College Library collection entirely grilled and locked from floor to ceiling. Each student was required to pay an annual fee toward the support of the College reading room, and a committee chosen by the literary societies was in charge of the selection of reading materials. Book theft was considered a serious offense, and, as late as 1901, the Board of Trustees felt the matter important enough to vote upon the expulsion of students for "surreptitiously removing books from the College Library."

After a long struggle for existence in competition with other extracurricular activities, the two literary societies folded in 1924 and transferred their libraries and one of their reading rooms on the third floor of Glatfelter Hall to the College Library. In 1922 the Philomatheans had debated: “Resolved that Gettysburg College should erect a new library and remodel the old one into a classroom.” For some time there had also been the feeling among some students on campus that Linnean Hall, used as a gym, should be converted into a library and that a new gym should be built.

The Board of Trustees decided in favor of a new library. The students voiced preference for the choice of a site near Brua and McKnight: “It is the opinion of the student body that the building could be most advantageously located where the wooden walls of Cottage Hall now rear heavenward. . . . A library should surely be in some choice spot which the students often pass, for a library of all buildings, is meant to be used much and often.” The administration concurred, and Cottage Hall, once a faculty residence, later a dormitory housing fifty men, was sold at auction to the highest bidder and razed on October 16, 1928.

Its foundation stones became the initial building material for a design drafted in the colonial spirit with modified Grecian style by J. Alfred Hamme, architect and alumnus. In October 1929 student assistants moved the book collection in wheelbarrows to the new building from Linnean Hall, where it had been stored during the remodeling of Glatfelter Hall. In the presence of more than six hundred people gathered at the entrance on November 17, 1929, President Henry W.A. Hanson officially opened the bronze door and the building later known as Schmucker Memorial Library began its own history.

Those chapters are closed now. As Musselman Library takes its place on the landscape, a new history begins in a symphony of steel and concrete, brick and mortar, light and color—a new building with a new technology for a new generation of students. Massive and solid, a challenge to intellect and imagination, Musselman Library stands central to the learning experience at Gettysburg College.

A Night's Lodging: Hotel Gettysburg at the Crossroads

[Originally published August 1983]

The winter light had faded more quickly than I realized, and darkness settled around the buildings in the Square, muffling their edges and emptying the streets of people. I finished my Saturday shopping and moved on, savoring the crisp air as I walked, yet eager to be home. My attention was drawn to the Lincoln Square Building as a couple left the sidewalk to wait in the warmth of the vestibule. The bright windows of the shops were inviting, and within this glow of light the pillars stood huge and white against the night. One could trace in silhouette the dimensions of this grand and stately building. For a moment it was as though we touched base, this building and I, and I thought about how the lighted windows had beckoned many a weary traveler on a winter's night during the years it lent its presence to the Square as the Hotel Gettysburg. I made a promise, for old time's sake, to treat myself to ice cream in its parlor known as Serendipity!

The promise came too late. Four days later, in the early morning of February 10, shouts of "Fire!" hurled through the air as elderly residents, roused from their sleep, were helped to safety. Two young men, Michael Bessler '84 and Gary Ozenbaugh '81, walking on Carlisle Street about 2:00 a.m., noticed smoke billowing from basement windows below the Serendipity Ice Cream Parlor. They were joined by Gettysburg fireman Jeff Gastley in their efforts to sound alarms, bang on doors, and evacuate the building. The fire spread rapidly through the seven specialty shops and the nineteen apartments in the Lincoln Square Building. More than two hundred firemen fought the blaze as the building, with the exception of the annex, ignited into an orange glow that roared against the night sky, shooting flames up to one hundred feet.

Those who missed the excitement reacted with disbelief and shock to the morning news, describing the loss of what had been the Hotel Gettysburg, a



Gettysburg Hotel, 1983

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

landmark of more than 150 years. The aftermath of the fire left the once handsome building scorched and gutted, the four remaining walls grim perimeters to a desolate interior that became a no-man's land filled with rubble. Ice, formed from the water used to fight the fire, and a snowfall of twenty inches the next day turned the charred remains into grotesque statuary.

I was glad I remembered the old hotel bathed in light and warmth as I saw it on that winter evening a few days earlier. I made myself another promise: to join with those whose memories were stirred by the destruction of this landmark and to discover more about the significance of its past.

For fifty years the name Scharf had been synonymous with the Hotel Gettysburg, for the elder Henry Scharf of Philadelphia had come to town in 1914 to manage the hotel on the Square. Three years later he acquired one-third interest in the business. At the time of his death in 1922 he was succeeded by his son, Henry M. Scharf. Although young Henry worked in the hotel as a boy, it was, nevertheless, remarkable that he became manager at age 19. He continued to operate the hotel as a family business, and he was joined in 1933 by his charming bride Peg and later by their young daughter Elise. Hotel Gettysburg offered the American plan. Dining was formal, and in the early days of the hotel male guests not properly attired could draw on the reserve supply of coats and ties provided by the management.

Those who would trace the history of this old hotel need to journey back in time to identify Scott's Tavern, once located on the present site and one of the first hostelries in Gettysburg. Originally owned and operated by James Scott, it was purchased by William McClellan in 1809. He opened there a "House of Public Entertainment at the Sign of the Indian Queen," an establishment that later became known as the Franklin House. Located in the Diamond, in the center of town, the building was conveniently situated for travelers arriving or departing by stage and, after 1858, by rail. Remaining in the same family for eighty years, this inn gradually became known as the McClellan House; in those days it occupied about half the frontage that the later Hotel Gettysburg occupied. According to local history, Daniel Webster had been a guest at the McClellan House and gave a speech from its steps.

The most colorful of the McClellan owners was Colonel John. Addicted to horse racing and fox hunting, the Colonel cut quite a figure during his day, and he prided himself on making a balloon ascension from Gettysburg to York a hair-raising excursion that cost him \$50.

A teller at the Gettysburg National Bank, Colonel McClellan never became directly involved in managing the family business; however, he was responsible for acquiring additional property to expand the McClellan House. He also planned for the erection of another building next door (now the Scharf-Bigham Building), which housed the elaborate McClellan's Opera House on the second floor. A source of joy and pride to the Colonel, the opera house opened its doors in 1880 to comedies, dramas, operas, concerts, lectures, minstrel shows, and public events for the entertainment of townspeople, students and faculty of the College and the Seminary, and travelers staying at the inn.

The next owner of the McClellan House, Simon J. Diller, maintained much the same style of accommodations for travelers as did his predecessors, and it was not until 1911 that extensive renovations changed the appearance of the McClellan House and it became known officially as the Hotel Gettysburg.

Among the thousands of guests to sign the registers or visit the dining rooms in the Hotel Gettysburg during the years of its operation were distinguished notables and popular personalities: Gene Tierney, John L. Lewis, Cliff Arquette, Admiral Chester Nimitz, Sherman Adams, Charles Wilson, Everett Dirksen, John Foster Dulles, George Wallace, President and Mrs. Richard Nixon. From time to time the attention of the nation was drawn to Hotel Gettysburg by the presence of its most famous guest, President Dwight David Eisenhower. In January 1961, over two hundred prominent citizens from Adams County gathered there at a banquet to welcome him home at the end of his service as the nation's 34th President. He first stayed at the Hotel Gettysburg as a West Point cadet, touring the Battlefield with his class. When he arrived in Gettysburg to assume command of Camp Colt, he took his first meals there.

Eisenhower's memories of the hotel were renewed during the thirty-seven days from November 14 to December 20, 1955, when his farm was designated the White House, Gettysburg, during his recuperation from a heart attack. Although the official offices of the President of the United States were temporarily located in the U.S. Post Office on Baltimore Street, offices for Eisenhower were also set up in the former Scharf apartment on the second floor of the hotel for ease of access by elevator.

The large auditorium in the annex of the hotel had quickly been converted by a host of carpenters, plumbers, painters, and electricians into a press room that buzzed with the activity of three major wire services and Western Union. Press Secretary James Hagerty and his staff used a hotel suite as their headquarters, and members of the President's cabinet availed themselves of the hotel's services when official business necessitated trips to Gettysburg. International coverage of the visits of Khrushchev, Nehru, and Field Marshal Montgomery brought members of the press and television from all over the world to the hotel as a base of operation.

Henry Scharf also extended a spirit of cordiality toward Gettysburg College. A member of the Class of 1925, he later served as the first chairman of the Board of Fellows from 1966-69 and as a trustee of the College from 1969 until his death in 1975. His ads in campus publications often carried a favorite slogan: "Hotel Gettysburg—as much a part of Gettysburg College as if it were located on the campus."

In 1925 expansion of the hotel facilities included the construction of an annex with a gymnasium to provide a place for College basketball games. That same year the Class of 1927 hosted the Junior Prom, probably the first of many dances to be held in this room. Designed to accommodate performances of stage and screen, the Majestic Theater in the annex provided the setting for community concerts, guest lecturers, community or College variety shows, as well as popular movies with interludes of live organ music. From the late 1920's to the late 1950's, it was also the site of the College's Commencement.

The great and glorious class banquets that came into vogue at the turn of the century reflect more than any other events the style and flavor of the hotels in Gettysburg and their role in the social life of the College. Hosting the junior class banquet in 1898, the Hotel Gettysburg provided a hearty repast, and the students furnished the noise. The *Gettysburgian* reported: "Every course on the menu was greeted by a deafening, 'Wah hoo wah!'" These evenings stretched into the early morning hours and were punctuated with class yells, toasts, songs, speeches, anecdotes, and lively music. The freshman banquet of the Class of 1904 held at the Hotel Gettysburg was disrupted by an invasion of sophomores who strapped the freshman class officers to chairs as a reminder to conform to customs.

Gettysburgians of more recent vintage remember the Hotel Gettysburg as the setting for sorority and fraternity banquets, dances in the dining room, reunions in the upstairs parlor, and gatherings in the grill room after football games. Old grads returning for Homecoming often checked in at the hotel, reserving the same room each year. Some alumni had even worked there during their college days as bell hops, bus boys, bartenders, or waiters.

As the Hotel Gettysburg gave way to changing patterns in accommodations and transportation, Henry Scharf bade goodnight on December 14, 1964, to his last diners, General and Mrs. Dwight Eisenhower, and he locked the door on a store of memories.

In 1965 conversion of the hotel building into apartments and shops began to take place, and interior renovations were made through the years by a series of owners. Now the frame of the old hotel haunts the passerby with a sensation of desolation as though it were the remnant of a war zone or a cast-off from an old movie set. Since the fire, remaining exterior walls have been braced with steel in an attempt by the present owners, Gettysburg Square Limited Partnership, to preserve as much of the original as possible.

As the shell of this landmark awaits its future, memories have surfaced again, and many people anticipate the reality of its restoration. I know I do, for I have made more promises to keep!

MANDOLINS IN THE MOONLIGHT: THE HISTORY OF STUDENT LIFE AT GETTYSBURG COLLEGE 1832-1982



*If we were all sitting on old
dorm steps some of these warm
moonlight nights and three
hundred lusty throats letting
forth the music of our unsur-
passed March song, the campus
would ring and every blade of
grass would seem to us the next
day to have grown several shades
greener and the trees to have
put on more leaves. It is after
something such as this that we
can understand why we love
the old college.*

Gettysburgian, April, 28, 1909

“Fifty Sets of College Boys,” 1832–1882

The year was 1832. A nation still in adolescence yawned and stretched to meet the months ahead, fresh with promise and the chance for new beginnings. Those Americans who kept abreast of what was happening in the country as the year unfolded discovered that the newspapers contained accounts as diverse as the founding of the New England Anti-Slavery Society in Boston and an outbreak of cholera in New York City that claimed the lives of four thousand. Before the year ended, the locomotive “Old Ironsides” made its first trip on the Germantown and Norristown railroad, and Samuel Morse conceived the idea of the telegraph, which, like the railroads, would span a continent. The United States government signed a treaty with the Creeks to forfeit all their land east of the Mississippi and an agreement with the Seminole chiefs to move their tribes from Florida to lands beyond the western shores of that mighty river.

In Boston’s Park Street Church a new song, “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee,” written by a young Baptist minister, Samuel Francis Smith, to the tune of “God Save the King,” was performed for the first time on July 4. On the literary scene Washington Irving finished writing *A Tour of the Prairie*.

Readers of the *Baltimore American and Commercial Daily Advertiser*, in their efforts to keep up with the national party conventions in that city or the developments of the forthcoming Presidential election, would have noticed a rather sizable advertisement in the paper on

October 5, 1832. It was tucked among announcements of properties for rent or sale, notice of the finest looking glasses framed in gilt and mahogany, and an invitation for customers to stop at the eating establishment in the basement of Peale’s Museum for fresh oysters—and coffee at all hours. The advertisement that caught one’s eye read in bold letters: “PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE. TO THE PUBLIC. The Trustees of Pennsylvania College, recently organized and located at Gettysburg, would respectfully inform the public that the institution will be opened for the reception of students on the 7th of November next.”

Additional information concerning the professors was included, as well as some persuasion for parents:

It has been the aim of the trustees to adapt this institution to the wants of the



First Home of the College on the corner of South Washington and High Streets.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

German population of our country. . . .

The proximity of Gettysburg to Baltimore and Philadelphia, the healthiness of the place, the morality of the inhabitants, its being the location of a flourishing theological seminary, the cheapness of living, and the high qualifications of the professors, all recommend the institution to the patronage of parents.

Good boarding may be had in the village at \$1.50 per week. The price of tuition is \$24 per year.

November 7 approached. Pennsylvania College began the first year of its history with an enrollment of twenty-three students—three juniors, eight sophomores, and twelve freshmen. Those applying for entrance had to “sustain an examination” on the Latin Reader, Caesar, Virgil, the Greek Reader, English grammar, arithmetic, and ancient and modern geography. During the early years of its existence the boys who came to Pennsylvania College must have had mixed feelings as they opened the gate in the white picket fence that surrounded the Academy building on High Street. James A. Brown, a Virginian from the class of 1840, was to recall:

I entered the preparatory department of Pennsylvania College in the year 1835, when the old Academy building was still occupied. It stood on the outskirts of the town of Gettysburg, and had but little appearance of a college. It contained but four rooms, all of which were daily occupied. There was no boarding department and no provision made for boarders. . . .

Most of the boys enrolled in Pennsylvania College during the early years were from Pennsylvania and Maryland. As its reputation grew, the College also attracted a few students from New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Virginia, and the Carolinas.

Stories survive of some of the first boys who came to Gettysburg although names and dates have been lost in the telling. Most of the young men arrived by stagecoach, while some rode up with horse and wagon or made the journey on foot. Two fellows from the South bought a horse and an old conveyance for \$25 and began their trek north for the opening of the College, a trip that took them four weeks. After they arrived in town with their meager belongings, they were able to sell horse and buggy for \$10 more than they paid for them. A lad College-bound from the eastern shore of Maryland reached Baltimore by sailboat. Being a young man of more affluence, he brought with him a trunk, which proved to be too large to fit into the stagecoach going to Gettysburg. As farmers were busy in their fields, days passed until he could locate a teamster going north. By the time he found himself on a wagon pulling into Gettysburg, three weeks had elapsed since he had left his home folks.

Many were the young men whose recollections of their college days included experiences of the miles they walked on foot. According to Pennsylvania College lore, in the early years one young man began walking from his home in Somerset County, near Pittsburgh, only to realize along the way that he was wearing out his shoes on the mountain roads. Continuing barefoot, he did not put on his shoes and stockings until he reached the outskirts of Gettysburg so that he could appear before the College President with proper decorum.

Each new student had to search for lodging in the village. By 1830 the inhabitants of Gettysburg, the seat of Adams County, numbered 1,468; the results of the census of 1840 indicated that the population had reached 1,908. The growth of this little rural community was attributed to the lively activity of its carriage trade. By the time of the Civil War Gettysburg had become a center for the making of coaches, carriages, gigs, and barouches. Situated in the hub of roads leading to York, Harrisburg,

Chambersburg, Carlisle, and Baltimore, the village also served as a stopping point for coaches and wagons carrying passengers, mail, or freight.

The families in town who were willing to board College boys were given a copy of the regulations of Pennsylvania College. The proprietors of boarding houses could expect a visit of inspection by one of the professors every two weeks.

Charles Augustus Hay, who entered Pennsylvania College as a sophomore in 1836, remembered years later:

[T]here was no possibility of the exercise of nocturnal discipline. The wildest pranks were then quite common, such as hoisting carts and wagons astride the comb of the roof of the old market-house, that then stood alongside of the old Court House in the public square; building a worm-fence around the Court House, and penning within it a dozen or more of the cows of the town; tearing out the benches of the chapel in the old Academy on High Street, where recitations were held; and putting together a huge broad-wheeled wagon in the chapel, and loading it with brick.

These escapades gave vent to boyish energy pent up after long hours intended to be spent in study and recitation. The earliest catalog, dated 1837, contains a program with a heavy concentration in Latin and Greek. By 1860 German was added as a language requirement. The course of study also included rhetoric, English grammar and composition, history, philosophy, religion, mathematics, and the sciences. In addition to the required courses, Hebrew, navigation, botany, mineralogy, or geology could be taken as optional studies. This curriculum, with slight variations, remained basically stable until 1886.

In 1832 four professors, who were also trained as Lutheran clergymen, comprised the faculty. By 1837 they taught a student body of forty-two young men. The cramped quarters shared with the preparatory school administered by the College on High Street had become increasingly inadequate in meeting the needs of a growing institution. This academy often recorded a larger enrollment than that of the College. Pennsylvania College drew a considerable number of students from its own preparatory department and, in turn, served as an institution to prepare students for the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg.

Recitation rooms used by the College were crowded, and the collection of books that comprised the library had to be shelved in a rented room in Professor Michael Jacobs' large red brick home on the northwest corner of Washington and Middle Streets. There the students could check out books only on Saturday mornings from 11:00 a.m. until noon. No browsing was allowed as the books had to be taken from the shelves by the professor.

NORTH OF THE VILLAGE

On September 25, 1837, the *Adams Sentinel* carried the news that "the new and splendid edifice erected by the Trustees of the College will be occupied next session which will commence on the 2nd of November." Financed by funds appropriated by the State legislature and designed by the architect and engineer, John Creson Trautwine, it was a magnificent four-story structure in the tradition of the Greek Revival. Constructed of brick painted white, its main approach was graced by a portico with large Doric columns and heightened by a cupola. It was set in a field north of the village amidst six acres owned by Thaddeus Stevens, a member of the Board of Trustees.

As October 1837 drew to a close, the faculty assembled in the new building in

order that the students could draw lots for the fourteen completed dormitory rooms. Surprised by the arrival of a committee of students presenting themselves in protest, the professors discovered that a rebellion had broken out at the student gathering in the market house on the square when the Pennsylvania College boys became aware that the steward's weekly charges would be \$1.75 for board and 12½ cents for cleaning one's room. Grievances were redressed as the faculty raised the cost of boarding to \$1.87½ per week with no extra charge for the cleaning of rooms! Room rent had been set at \$5 per session by the Board of Trustees, and tuition was raised to \$30 *per annum*. Each student was expected to provide his own furniture as well as the wood for the fireplace that heated his room.

The new building, later known as Pennsylvania Hall, was designed to accommodate almost one hundred students in about fifty-four dormitory rooms. It contained six recitation rooms, which also served as professors' offices, on the second and third floors. The library was located in the northern half of the center section on the third floor, while the southern part was used as a chapel. The space on the fourth floor was reserved for the halls and the libraries of the two literary societies: the Philomatheans in the eastern section, the Phrenakosmians in the western end.

The catalog of 1839 proclaimed:

The discipline of the Institution is, as nearly as possible, parental. . . . The President, under whose immediate supervision the building is placed, lives in it with his family, and together with the Tutors and Professors, exercises a constant guardianship over the whole establishment: so that the parents from a distance have all the security they may desire for the proper government of their children.

President Charles P. Krauth and his family lived in quarters on the west end of the second floor. Those students who were summoned to his presence or wished for some reason to seek his counsel could find him in his office directly to the left of the main entrance. Each student's room was visited daily by the senior tutor at a time specified by the President.

In 1837 rules had been adopted by the Board of Trustees for the supervision of students in the new edifice, and they were firmly established throughout the years that followed. Morning began at 5:30 a.m. with the ringing of the College bell, followed by a scramble to be ready for prayers and worship at 6:00 a.m. The activities of the school day also ended with prayers in the chapel. All students were expected to be in the recitation rooms or their dormitory rooms during the hours of study, 7:00-8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.-noon, 2:00-5:00 p.m., and 8:00-10:00 p.m. On the Lord's day these hours were to be "employed in reading books of a decidedly moral and religious character and in attending public and private worship" as well as a Bible recitation held in the afternoon. A bell sounded the close of the day at 10:00 p.m., with lights out at 10:30. The unscheduled hours were allotted for recreation. A lot adjoining the College was provided as a campus for the purpose of exercise and sport during leisure time.

Each student signed a vow to abide by the rules of conduct that were to govern his behavior. Demerits were recorded and admonition given for such offences as absence from recitation, failure to complete written exercises or deliver speeches, the use of profane language, playing cards, ungentlemanly treatment of a fellow student, frequenting a tavern or eating house, or leaving town during study hours without permission. Severe or repeated offenses were punishable by suspension. Students in good standing were forbidden to associate with those under censure.

Helping Pennsylvania College operate *in loco parentis*, the steward Peter

Aughinbaugh and his wife Elizabeth lived with their family on the west end of the ground floor and attended to the needs of the boys and the care of the house. Mother Aughinbaugh provided washing, mending and darning, and the sewing on of many buttons. Her cooking filled the two long tables that stretched the length of the dining room under the portico. “At the head of each table sat one of the tutors, to ask the blessing, preserve order and carve,” recalled Joseph B. Bittinger, Class of 1844. “The students stood while grace was being said. Instead of chairs, we sat on long benches, and it sometimes happened, in our zeal to be seated, or in some superfluity of naughtiness, that one of those benches would be overturned with a great crash, to the delight of the boys and the confusion of the tutor, or the principal of the Preparatory Department.” Boarding in the College Edifice was discontinued before the steward system was abandoned in 1860.

Peter Aughinbaugh found himself charged by the Board of Trustees to clean the students’ rooms and to wash the bedsteads and take precautions against vermin every four weeks. Aughinbaugh’s domain included the yard behind the College Edifice—a motley sight of wells, privies, a washhouse that also served as a bakehouse, a smokehouse, a stable, later to be joined through the years by a springhouse, a cattleshed, and a bathhouse. Interspersed were students’ individual woodpiles. Later, wood was available in a woodhouse owned by the College.

Fond tales surrounded the Aughinbaughs—stories of kindnesses rendered and boyish pranks played. Most infamous of them all was the mischief that resulted in the demise of one of the steward’s fine calves. This incident caused the Class of 1852 to name the little stream that flows between the College and the town “The Tiber,” in memory of the muddy-colored coat of the departed beast.

A large garden tended by the Aughinbaughs provided food for the tables. The College land also included grain fields harvested by the steward and the College boys. The classrooms regularly became haymows when boys worked stealthily by moonlight. One old grad recalled an evening’s labor in Pennsylvania Hall that occurred while the professors and tutors were in town feasting on cake, ice cream, and confections:

Like magic, the lower rooms and halls were filled to their utmost capacity; not a chair, desk or blackboard to be seen, nothing but the rusty stove pipe that extended its long jointed arm beyond and across the pile. Then the busy harvesters ascended to the second floor and in a short time the recitation rooms and hall were allotted their full proportion and yet the gatherers called for more room. Next in order the stairways were blockaded to keep out intruders and each landing received its precious burden. . . .

COME TO THE FAIR!

In addition to the fields there remained the more formal part of the campus that needed care. In order to beautify the grounds surrounding the College Edifice, the Board of Trustees authorized in 1839 the planting of 160 trees at 37½ cents each, followed by an addition of fifty more saplings the next year. Enthusiasm for beautification and care of the campus was spearheaded by the members of the Linnaean Association of Pennsylvania College, organized in 1844 by students and faculty to promote the cause of science through the spirit of investigation and a love of nature.

In 1844 the Linnaeans began planting shade trees, shrubbery, flower beds, and grape vines and improving the walks. The first walk on campus was known as the *Via*

Benedicta in recognition of Frederick Benedict, a Linnaean from the Class of 1847, who supervised its construction. This path, extending a few feet south of the main entrance to the College Edifice, stretched eastward to Washington Street.

The project to receive the most concerted efforts of the Linnaeans in their pursuit of science was the Cabinet, a collection of specimens: minerals, shells, birds, quadrupeds, reptiles, insects, and fossils as well as coins and medals. It was with pride that the young gentlemen watched it outgrow its space in the library in the College Edifice while they seized upon the idea of a new building, a museum befitting Pennsylvania College.

As funds were lacking, a committee was appointed to make arrangements for holding a fair and "to stir up a spirit of emulation among the liberal ladies of our land in making and sending to us, such articles as will be likely to meet with ready sale." The students distributed a circular, and from July 1 through July 4, 1845, the town of Gettysburg witnessed a fair of such splendid proportions that it would be talked about for a generation. The Linnaeans in their journal noted there were "refreshments of the richest cake, ice-creams, fruits, etc." which were "as elegant as they were abundant." For sale there was also a "fine display of worsted work and embroidery, slippers, mats, etc., purses and bags knit of fine silver and steel beads. . .," as well as clothing for infants and children. The Linnaeans published a paper for the occasion entitled "The Village Belle" and sold over 100 copies.

The proceeds from this event netted \$550. Members were urged to collect additional funds during vacation periods, and a committee of students conducted a door-to-door campaign in Gettysburg. The Board of Trustees appropriated \$1000 to the project as it was agreed upon that the lower level would be used for classes. Linnaeans went throughout the countryside securing promises of wood to fire the bricks for the new building. They dug the foundation, labored in a nearby brickyard, and enlisted the help of farmers to haul stones and bricks to the site.

The laying of the cornerstone on July 23, 1846, was reported by the *Adams Sentinel* as drawing the largest audience ever assembled for a similar event. When Linnaean Hall reached completion, the president of the Society, Dr. John G. Morris, opened his speech at the dedication on September 14, 1847, with these words: "The occasion which has brought us together to-day, forms an interesting event in the history of American Colleges. As a Trustee of this institution, I feel proud that ours should be thus distinguished. It is the first time an edifice devoted to Natural History conceived, designed, erected and completed through the agency of students, has been dedicated in this country."

D. M. SMYSER, Pres't.
Attest—J. M. STEVENSON, Sec'y.
June 23. 3t

LADIES' FAIR.

THE LADIES of Gettysburg and vicinity respectfully announce to the public, that they propose holding A FAIR on *Tuesday & Wednesday, the 1st and 2d of July next*, in the room adjoining the Law Office of M. McCLEAN, Esq.

The proceeds of the Fair are to be appropriated to the assistance of the *Linnaean Society of Pennsylvania College* in erecting a HALL for their Cabinet. Persons desirous of patronizing the Ladies in this praise-worthy undertaking, are respectfully invited to give them a call.—They will have for sale a great variety of useful and fancy articles, as well as Refreshments of every description.

June 16. tl

An advertisement in the June 23, 1845, edition of the *Adams Sentinel* brought attention to a fair to raise funds for the construction of Linnaean Hall.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

I HEREBY DECLARE . . .

Like the Linnaean Society with its lectures and field experiences, other early student organizations at Pennsylvania College were often related to the student's academic program. The history of many of these groups is brief as their survival depended upon continued student interest and leadership. Organized in 1839, the Bible Society of Pennsylvania College and the Theological Seminary promoted the work of the Pennsylvania Bible Society with missionary zeal and canvassed the county in student teams of two to attain the goal of placing a Bible in every home. Der Deutsche Verein, which traced its origins to 1836, offered students an opportunity to develop their interest in German language and literature. Musical groups, such as the Euterpian Band, which played at the first commencement in 1834, existed sporadically throughout the early years whenever student talent and initiative sparked their formation. By the late 1850s secret societies known as fraternities were found on campus; these small groups achieved greater strength when their popularity and membership increased during the 1890s.

The most prominent organizations on campus were the literary societies. Their activities and traditions influenced intellectual and social life at Pennsylvania College for almost a century. The Phrenakosmian Literary Society and the Philomathean Literary Society encouraged practice in oratory and composition and ease in extemporaneous speaking. Their members were also concerned about broadening the range of thought and culture on campus while cultivating a taste for learning and the sentiment of friendship.

Keen and sometimes bitter rivalries prevailed in the competition fostered by the two groups, whose activities predated the College, for they were organized in 1831 in the academy building on High Street. "Our literary society exercises were commonly occasions of much interest and excitement," noted James A. Brown, a Phrenakosmian from the Class of 1840. "Of course each strove for mastery. Every new arrival was carefully watched, posted and caressed, and generally had a hard time until one or the other society got him into its clutches. The annual public contest was a great event with the students, as well as the citizens." Preparation for this exercise demanded weeks of memorization and drill for the young orators. Many a large rock in the surrounding countryside served as a rostrum in the rigorous practice for debate, and before the tall mirror in the society halls a fellow could be caught studying the effects of his gestures. A formally dressed Phrena could be identified by his badge bearing a blue ribbon, while his rival Philo sported white.

Membership dues were contributed toward the support of the society libraries and reading rooms. Each society subscribed to a number of daily newspapers as well as weekly and monthly periodicals, and their collection of books rivaled the College library. A sense of pride caused the two groups to compete with each other in furnishing their halls and resulted in the purchase of Brussels carpet for the societies' rooms in Pennsylvania Hall. To protect this precious luxury from hard usage, members were required to wear carpet slippers while attending meetings.



Linnaean Hall, dedicated in 1847.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

The boys who had colds or were otherwise unwell were granted special dispensation to appear with shoes.

“THE REBELS ARE COMING!”

In the spring of 1863 the Phrenakosmians were debating the issue, “Will the course of the administration bring about a restoration of the Union?” and the Philomatheans were wrestling with such questions as “Was the freeing of the Negroes by the President’s proclamation of any service in suppressing the present rebellion?” What none of these young men realized was that within weeks the heavy tramp of boots would be heard on the stairs, furniture would be stripped from the meeting rooms, and the cries of the wounded and dying would mingle with the shouts of battle. Walls and floors, carpets and books would be stained with the blood of Confederate soldiers, for the College Edifice became a temporary hospital.

The Philomatheans recorded in their minutes:

Cause of the Interruption of the Meetings of the Philo. Society

On Monday, the 15th of June 1863 a telegram was received, warning the citizens of the near approach of the rebel army. The excitement which prevailed was intense. On Tuesday . . . a second telegram was received and a Proclamation of the Governor calling upon all the able-bodied men of the State to arise for the defense of the Capital. The students of the college immediately formed a company under command of a Graduate member of Philo Society Frederick Klinefelter, as Captain, and all the members of Society with one or two exceptions on account of physical disability and age, enrolled themselves, whilst some twenty or thirty members of the Phrena Society refused to go. Some having even put down their names and afterwards backed out!

Of the eighty-three signatures on the enrollment list, sixty-one have been identified as sons of Pennsylvania College. Those signers marched from the town to the College to declare their intentions and joined the contingent, forming in front of Linnaean Hall. On the morning of June 17 the newly organized company left by train for Camp Curtin near Harrisburg; as the first unit to respond to the Governor’s call for men, they attained the distinction of being designated Company A of the 26th Pennsylvania Emergency Infantry. William E. Parson, a freshman who enlisted, was to write later: “The spirit of the organization was ‘collegiate,’ and pranks and songs, etc., helped the members to forget their discomfort and the fears of a new situation.” Although Company A did not take part in the Battle of Gettysburg, these new recruits encountered some skirmishes with the rebels as they attempted to delay the advance of Confederate troops in the area. Later the students comprising Company A were commended by the Board of Trustees for their efforts.

Those students who remained on campus attended classes, although in some recitation rooms only two or three were present. Horatio Watkins, a junior, recalled,

Amid rumors of the “Rebels Coming,” but ignorant of their nearness, our Class of ’64, excited and restless, appeared before President Baugher, Wednesday morning, July 1, 1863, to recite. The U.S. Signal Corps soon after came into the college to make observations from the tower. This created considerable noise and aroused suspicions. Amid repeated failures on part of the class, our professor remarked “We will close and see what is going on for you know nothing about the lesson anyhow.” Of this we were equally assured.

Horatio Watkins and other students hastily made their way into town and headed for the Seminary cupola, where they became caught up in the excitement of

observing the first day's battle. As shells whizzed by uncomfortably close, they left their post and returned to town, scattering as they tried to help those in need and taking refuge with families they knew. One of the boys, Michael Colver, a senior, wrote, "I wandered alone, being driven from place to place by the sound of cannon balls which did not pass comfortably high enough in the air." Returning to the College after the fighting of the three days' battle subsided and the troops had left the town, Colver remembered the sight that awaited him:

On our arrival we found in and around the building, according to the estimate given us, seven hundred wounded rebels. When I came to my room I saw it afforded ample accommodations for three—one on the bed and two on the floor. Upon investigation I ascertained that all my books, trunks and other effects were gone. . . . [A]ll the property of students which could be gained possession of was, according to the instruction of a rebel officer, placed in the president's room and that during the time of the battle a guard had been furnished by the officer to protect such property. . . . All rooms, halls and hallways were occupied with the poor deluded sons of the South. The moans, prayers and shrieks of the wounded and dying were heard everywhere.

Classes were suspended until September 24 to allow for cleaning and repairs following the four-week Confederate occupation of the building as a hospital. The sixteen graduating seniors received their degrees *in absentia*. The young men of Company A were mustered out on July 30, 1863; some of them returned to College, while others chose to re-enlist. Enrollment dropped from ninety-nine students in 1861 to sixty-one in 1865; by the next year the size of the student body began to approach a pre-war level, and in 1867 the College enrollment exceeded one hundred for the first time.

A total of twenty-one graduates and former students fought in the Battle of Gettysburg; sixteen aided the Union cause and five supported the Confederacy. The Battle left its imprint and fascination upon generations of Gettysburgians. The Philomatheans recorded in their minutes of October 21, 1863: "Mr. Gotwald moved that the regular order of exercises be suspended for the afternoon for the purpose of affording the members an opportunity to visit the battleground and collect shells,—carried."

On November 19, 1863, the Pennsylvania College boys assembled near the bank on York Street where the procession was forming for the ceremony to dedicate the cemetery on the ridge. Philip M. Biklé, a sophomore who joined the procession that day, observed:

We were assigned the inconspicuous position of tail-enders. . . . On reaching the cemetery we found the column had divided and the tail-enders were allowed to march through and halt directly in front of the large platform built for the speakers and other dignitaries of that occasion. . . .

When Mr. Lincoln rose to speak the stillness was very noticeable. It was the tall, gaunt figure of a man that might be called somewhat imposing but certainly not attractive. . . . With a hand on each side of his manuscript . . . he spoke in a most deliberate manner, and with such a forceful and articulate expression that he could be heard by all of that immense throng. . . . There was no gesture except with both hands up and down grasping the manuscript which he did not seem to need, as he looked at it so seldom. . . . I do remember that there was surprise that his speech was so short.

A TIME TO MAKE MERRY

During the Battle President Baugher had remained on campus with his family in the White House, which had been completed as the Presidential home in 1859. For years afterward he and his successors could hear the rolling of cannon balls down the corridors of Pennsylvania Hall and the rollicking laughter of the boys involved. Disciplining these ingenious pranksters had become the responsibility of a resident tutor of the Preparatory Department who supervised the building and its occupants. Henry Eyster Jacobs, an 1862 graduate, who served in that capacity wrote in his memoirs:

In my duties as guardian of about a hundred wild college boys, I had no means a light task. They were full of pranks. . . . The long hall-ways, the entire length of the building, formed good alleys for rolling solid shot taken from the battlefield. It was a favorite trick to heat them over the hot coals, and then send them spinning, with the expectation that the officer in charge would pick them up in his naked hand. Great firecrackers would be set off in barrels, and horns blown in various parts of the building. The belfry was once entered, and the rope carried up a ladder and thrown over the cupola, so that the bell could be rung from outside the building. Streams of water would be thrown upon persons coming up the steps. Effigies were made and dignified. Professors found dangling by their necks along the banks of the Tiber.

Brusque and impetuous, President Baugher possessed a tender heart underneath his severity, and these irregularities stung him to the core, for he regarded them as bold acts of defiance of authority rather than the overflow of boyish energy. Henry Eyster Jacobs commented: "He was pleased to find me alert and usually successful as a detective. On one occasion I drew him out of the corner where he was hiding for the culprit. I shook him before I discovered my mistake. He was pleased, not so much by the experience, as at learning that his movements were not needed to insure vigilance."



Pennsylvania College, 1862.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

The responsibility of ferreting out offenders was also entrusted to John Hopkins, the janitor. Beloved by the students Jack rendered many a personal kindness. When mischief was in store, Jack closed his eyes to boyish pranks and somehow never seemed to have any incriminating evidence to report. In addition to his janitorial duties in the recitation rooms, he rang the College bell that called students to classes or chapel. As Jack's responsibilities increased, the washhouse behind Pennsylvania Hall was enlarged to serve as a residence for him and his family.

During his twenty-one years of service John Hopkins, as janitor and friend, became a specialist in the ways in which College boys made merry. The keyhole trick became a subtle form of blockade, a skill acquired by succeeding generations of Gettysburgians. It was the job of Jack and his successors to pick the lead from the locks the next morning. A tradition that afforded insuppressible delight to Pennsylvania College boys demanded careful cooperation by night to coax a calf or

cow into the chapel or the cupola of Pennsylvania Hall where its presence astounded the campus community as they awoke at dawn to the sound of its bawling.

Pranks changed with the times. After gas lights were introduced in Gettysburg in 1860 and the necessary fixtures had been installed in Pennsylvania Hall, it had become tantalizing for students to turn off the lights at inopportune moments. In 1862 the use of wood as a fuel in the College building was prohibited. A stove in each dormitory room provided heat for the occupants, and stealing coal from someone else's bucket became the trick in vogue.

There were the great good times that stood out in memory—like the hot spell of 1868, when the boys started singing patriotic songs in Pennsylvania Hall on the afternoon of July 3 until the whole population of the building gathered on the third floor in their rocking chairs, forming a double row up and down the hall. Charles E. Sadtler, enrolled during that session, declared that

the fun waxed fast and furious; never before had such a rousing chorus been assembled in the old college walls. The tutors walked the halls in despair, or if they sought refuge in their rooms, were recalled by volleys of fire-crackers. Finally, the din having aroused the neighborhood, a message came from the President preemptorily ordering a rest. This was immediately obeyed, and whistling of the same tunes substituted, and though the neighbors profited by the change, the tutors did not. The whistling being in turn suppressed, violent rocking of the chairs and animated discussion took its place, and so on all evening. . . .

These high spirits were often made manifest in town and throughout the countryside. Voices raised in serenade to a favorite professor or special ladyfriend could be heard wafting along the streets to the accompaniment of flutes, fifes, violins, tin horns, or the inevitable coal bucket, representing the percussion section. The Pennsylvania College boys also delighted in coasting, skating, and taking their girls on sleighing parties. In 1876, as the spring thaw set in and Easter vacation arrived, some of the students at the hour of midnight shared their skating pond, located between the College building and Stevens Hall, by gleefully boring a hole and releasing over half an acre of water with a great rush and roar into the community. Thoughts of summer turned youthful enthusiasm to playing ball both inside and outside the College Edifice, challenging friends at croquet on the campus lawn, or testing one's endurance in the walking matches sponsored by the College. Rambles in the countryside on Saturday afternoons yielded wildflower specimens for the tin containers of sophomores studying botany or bunches of grapes and sacks filled with peaches or apples from the orchards of unsuspecting farmers.

Calling on the ladies in town and discovering a favorite girl constituted a choice pastime for all seasons. Spending an evening of heavenly bliss in her parlor or joining her on a Saturday afternoon promenade up Baltimore Street and into the cemetery grounds were pleasures too delectable to be overlooked. Dressed in his best suit, a fellow had to exercise caution on the streets of Gettysburg, for a student in 1880 wrote that a Pennsylvania College boy often feels "a certain giving way of his foot and hears a gentle splash and then discovers his newly polished boots and pantaloons beautifully decorated with horrible effluvia from a loose brick." "Frequently, when a gentleman intends only to make a polite bow by some mysterious agency he prostrates himself," remarked another.

Some townspeople had their own opinions about the sidewalks. An outraged citizen wrote to the *Adams Sentinel* in February 1862:

If the Faculty and Students of Pennsylvania College are found submerged one of these days in mud between Scott's Corner and the end of the Presbyterian graveyard, we do not suppose that either the town council or the citizens would endeavor to extricate them, for their skulls would make a better pavement than the present one.

As the faculty and students multiplied in number, Pennsylvania College reached its fiftieth year in 1882 with a student body of 111 and a full-time faculty of seven. Tuition had remained at \$50 per year since 1872, with room rent at \$9 per year since 1861. President Milton Valentine informed the audience gathered at the Semi-Centennial Reception in the College Church on the evening of June 27, 1882, that the College had a total of 683 graduates. He also remarked that an analysis of the enrollment in both the College and the Preparatory Department indicated that from 1832-1882 about 2,500 young men had been connected with the institution.

At the reunion of the local chapter of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity on the evening of June 29, 1882, at McClellan's Opera House, Matthias H. Richards Class of 1860, captured the spirit of the celebration in this stanza from his lengthy "Semi-Centennial Delta Poem":

*Fifty years of fun and noise!
Fifty sets of college boys!
Fifty crops of Freshmen green,
Fifty Soph'more bands to wean
From coltish outbreaks into sense!
Fifty Junior legions whence
Fifty Senior cohorts rise,
Fifty times the goal of eyes
Gazing on Commencement day,
With growing wonder, at the way
The new A.B.'s, so elegant,
With wondrous wisdom wild descant.*

Great Good Times, 1883–1909

Classes had begun on September 4, 1884, in the midst of a heat wave that pushed the thermometer into the upper 90's. Soggy spirits were further diminished by the absence of a number of students who were late in returning. Convocation that day without the new president of Pennsylvania College was definitely lacking in excitement. Thus it was with anticipation that the student body banded together on the evening of September 17 and filed quietly to the White House to surprise the occupant with a serenade. At the outburst of song President McKnight appeared and was greeted by hearty cheers of welcome. A student noted that “we had the assurance from him, that whilst he will make no large promises, he will always sympathize with us—even when it is necessary to assign an unusually long lesson.”

The occasion must have stirred memories in Harvey Washington McKnight, memories of the years when he had walked in the same halls and sat in the same classrooms as the young men for whom he was now responsible. As president of the Philomathean Literary Society, he had joined his fellow Philos in signing the roster in response to the Governor's call for men in June 1863 and became the adjutant of Company A, 26th Pennsylvania Emergency Infantry. He took command of his alma mater at a time when both faculty and students were expressing strong opinions concerning the need for additional physical facilities to provide more classroom and dormitory space.



Prof. Stahley's Anatomy class, ca 1912.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

Looking toward the future, the College under his leadership enlarged its campus by purchasing six additional tracts of land and launched a building program. On the afternoon of June 27, 1888, students joined a large crowd gathered in the rain underneath the shelter of their umbrellas to witness the laying of the cornerstone of a new classroom building. After the scene had been captured by the photographer W. H. Tipton, the people moved to another site to attend the ground breaking for Brua Memorial Chapel. By 1889 classes were held in the new recitation building that towered over the campus with the prim grace of a Victorian Lady; it would win a place in the hearts of Gettysburgians through the years as Glatfelter Hall, its official name since 1912.

With the new building came variations of student mischief. Classroom benches

had been replaced by chairs in 1887. Professors and students who arrived for their morning classes in Recitation Hall sometimes found that the chairs had been removed from the classrooms and piled to fill the lobby. Sometimes it was impossible to enter classrooms, for chairs were jammed from floor to ceiling. When steam heat was installed on the campus in 1889, it became irresistible for years afterward to put limburger cheese on the hot radiators.

As the College developed its physical plant and the size of its enrollment increased, more visitors came to the campus. Their presence signaled the traditional alert, "Heads Out!" that would echo up and down the halls of the dormitories. Heads were thrust out of windows to gawk and tease. An unexpected dunking with pails of water was sometimes the treatment accorded the person below. The installation of a bathroom in Pennsylvania Hall in 1906 insured the continued popularity of this trick, which also spread to other dormitories. In 1898 the need for additional dormitory space had resulted in the building of South College, later McKnight Hall; by 1904 the faculty residence, located on the site of Schmucker Hall, had been converted to Cottage Hall with living quarters for students. As other dormitories joined the campus scene, Pennsylvania Hall became affectionately known among Gettysburgians as "Old Dorm."

After the building of Glatfelter Hall the enrollment of Pennsylvania College doubled in twenty years, reaching 247 in 1909. Expanded facilities and revisions in the curriculum had enabled the College to attract more students and to meet their changing needs. In 1886 the Scientific Course was introduced as an option for those students who did not wish to enroll in the Classical Course. By 1890 a student had a limited number of electives that he could select as part of his program during the junior and senior years.

While emphasis on Latin and Greek remained strong, an increasing number of students purchased translations known in the vernacular as "horses" and "horsed" their way through difficult passages. A student reporter described the waning enthusiasm by recording this incident on an April day in 1900:

When the time came for some of the Juniors to decide whether they wished to still follow the rugged paths of Latin or sail some smoother sea, there were some amusing scenes. One fellow meandered slowly to the door of the Latin room and then, with a gesture of horror and despair, broke for the Bible room and took a chair in it with a great sigh of relief.

DEAR EDITOR

Even though the College had begun to broaden the academic program and to relax its role *in loco parentis* by modifying the rigidity of the rules and regulations, some of the students were eager for more independence and an opportunity to express themselves in print. The first all-campus publication, the *Pennsylvania College Monthly*, was founded by Professor Philip M. Biklé, Class of 1865, and edited by him from 1877-1893. One of the top college magazines in the country, the *Monthly* included student reporters from the literary societies who contributed considerably; however, the student body wanted a publication that was more truly its own.

In March 1893 a new College magazine was distributed among the students. The venture was undertaken by seven seniors and two juniors who constituted the staff. They described their efforts simply: "It bears the name of *College Mercury*, has a neat cover and is well printed." The future of the *Mercury* was uncertain. Soon after the first issue appeared, it was turned over to the literary societies as intended. Although

it had displaced the *Monthly*, its existence frequently necessitated a struggle for funds. Publication was suspended in 1912; by 1926 the *Mercury* resumed its life as solely a literary magazine.

Complaints that news in the *Mercury* was frequently a month old led to the ascendancy of a newcomer described as “the *Gettysburgian*, child of Mars”—born March 9, 1897. The students who launched this weekly news journal were Charles T. Lark, Simon M. Lutz, and Edward W. Meisenhelder, members of the Class of 1898. The front page of the first issue contained their goals: “We seek to uphold every institution of our college; to keep the alumni in touch with their Alma Mater; to arouse a more active interest among our friends; to keep burning brightly the fires of student patriotism; and to place Gettysburg second to no other.” The *Gettysburgian* became a champion of student concerns and a mirror of campus opinion.

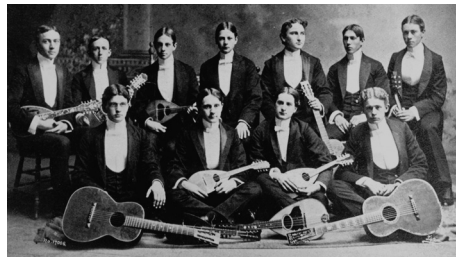
In the pages of the new journal one could find articles and editorials concerning the activities open to students at Pennsylvania College. Among these campus organizations the literary societies still claimed time and energy from the majority of the student body.

BOUND IN BROTHERHOOD

The completion of Recitation Hall in 1889 and the move into new society halls on the third floor had brought a renaissance to Phrena and Philo, but the attraction of a growing number of other activities on campus made it increasingly difficult for these two groups to retain their former stronghold. Programs held in the society halls on the third floor of the new building were set in an aura of elegance. The Phrenakosmians were proud of their oak chairs with maroon leather upholstery, handsome sofas, and a delicate chandelier. The Philomatheans had drawn by lot the room that had a ceiling resembling an upside-down canal boat and persuaded the architect to expose the timbers, case them in yellow pine, and add tracery and spindle work. When the project was completed, three large chandeliers with eighteen jets each cast their light on the crimson carpet, the gold chenille curtain, the carved oak tables, and the walls and ceilings frescoed in delicate pink.

To lend more variety to presentations of essays and orations and sessions of debate, society members included musical interludes and dramatic productions to enhance their programs. Yet there were those who felt that the performances were too stiff and that the societies were a bore. Fewer young men wanted to go through the pain and practice necessary to present the special events.

Among the groups that began to vie for attention were the social fraternities. Their early history at Pennsylvania College provided the background for the growth of traditions, although during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the number of fraternity men constituted only one-third of the total College enrollment. As the fraternities had not yet established living units, members were more integrated socially with the student body than their counterparts of later years. At first meetings were held in dormitory rooms; as the groups expanded, a rented room or hall above one of the stores in town would



Mandolin Club, 1900 Spectrum.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

be engaged to serve as headquarters.

On July 24, 1884, the oldest fraternity at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania Epsilon Chapter (1855) of Phi Kappa Psi, dedicated a meeting place on campus. Built of gray stone with gables in Queen Anne style, it was known as Miller Hall. Located south of the White House, the building became the first chapter house erected by the national fraternity, Phi Kappa Psi, and the first college fraternity house in the State of Pennsylvania. It is also claimed to be the oldest fraternity building in the United States continuously used for fraternity purposes. Two years after its completion, one of the students reported in the *Pennsylvania College Monthly*: "Through the courtesy of one of the members we have had the pleasure seeing the new furniture in Miller Hall. . . . It is of oak finished in cherry leather, and consists of chairs and two large New York couches, in addition to the tables. . . . The whole is in harmony with the oak finish of the hall." In March 1888 it was noted that "a handsome full crystal chandelier was put up, which lends a brilliant finish to the generally tasteful appearance of the Hall." Xi Chapter (1858) of Phi Gamma Delta followed suit in 1890 with the construction of a lodge of serpentine rock and pressed brick on the site of their present house, and a year later Sigma Chi's Theta Chapter, founded in 1863, dedicated Glatfelter Lodge, built of brownstone with a red tile roof, north of Recitation Hall. Local chapters of other national fraternities received their charters at Pennsylvania College during the nineteenth century: Phi Delta Theta (1875); Alpha Tau Omega (1882); Sigma Alpha Epsilon (1899). Local secret societies also played a role on the fraternity scene at Gettysburg. Some of them later became affiliated with national brotherhoods. The Druids (1897) joined Phi Sigma Kappa (1925); Theta Phi (1909) affiliated with Kappa Delta Rho (1928). Among the significant contributions of early fraternity life at Pennsylvania College was the publication of the first issues of the national magazine, *The Sigma Chi*, by the local chapter from 1881-1883. Following the founding of Alpha Upsilon of ATO on campus, this group edited *The Palm*, their national publication, from 1882-1888 and compiled the first ATO songbook.

An editor for the *Gettysburgian* commented in the issue of October 10, 1900: "The advisability of departing from the regular course of the college by taking an active interest in the extras which every college affords is being discussed more and more by students." Formed in 1897 by William J. Gies, Class of 1893, Pen and Sword honored those upperclass men who were outstanding in campus activities; as members they worked together to render service to the College.

The musical clubs were among the most popular groups in the growing number of extra-curricular activities at Pennsylvania College. Under joint management by students, the Glee, Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar Clubs provided music on campus and delighted audiences in the area with their concert tours. The groups worked hard to prepare a varied program of glees, college songs, serenades, and comic songs. Enthusiastically received by audiences in the communities where they performed, these clubs won friends wherever they toured and served an important role as goodwill ambassadors for Pennsylvania College.

Other student groups, many of them sporadic in their existence, captured the interests of the young gentlemen at Pennsylvania College. An attraction to dramatics resulted in the formation of the Roister Doister Club in 1898, followed by the Mask and Wig in 1906. The plays presented were student directed, and the absence of a faculty director during these early years resulted in a lack of continuity in dramatics.

WE'RE QUARANTINED!

The most unusual group to come into being was named the Society of the Bald Heads. Its brief existence can be traced to the winter of 1905 when the *Gettysburgian* of February 15 reported “the greatest excitement in Gettysburg College since the great battle in 1863. The town people were greatly wrought up over the alleged case of small-pox in town and were in such a state of nervous excitement” that when two College freshmen became ill and developed a rash, panic ensued. A young, inexperienced physician in town made a misdiagnosis, and the Great Smallpox Scare broke loose.

The news leaked out during the evening meal while students were scattered about town at their boarding clubs. A rush to the campus revealed that yellow notices posted by the local Board of Health screamed from every gate and doorway. Dozens of boys grabbed what they could and fled. Bertram Strohmeier, a junior, described the scene as he looked down from a window of the Druid fraternity room on the town square:

It was like a nest of ants when suddenly uncovered. Individuals were blurred in the general confusion, and only the things they were lugging stood out. Trunks, suitcases, lamps, books, bedding, white sheets trailing in the mud. There was no doubt that these things were being carried somewhere by a frenzied multitude suddenly gone berserk. But by late evening the futility of flight became obvious to most and they crept back sheepishly to their rooms, accepting the quarantine.

In the early morning eighteen boys took the train to Harrisburg, only to be caught and returned to Gettysburg under police escort.

Out of a total enrollment of 244, about seventy boys remained and were confined to Pennsylvania Hall and South College. They consoled themselves, put away their books, played cards, and planned an “ice cream” party, which was in reality a head-shaving occasion held as a prank, leaving the initiates as brothers bound together in the Society of the Bald Heads. Skeptical College authorities requested that the Board of Health provide an expert to confirm the diagnosis, and after three days elapsed it was found that the two freshmen were suffering from chicken pox. The excitement provoked by the quarantine was not echoed until February 1920 when an epidemic of scarlet fever on campus turned Cottage Hall into “Segregation Camp” and forced the observatory into use as an infirmary.

WHAT'S COOKING?

The Great Smallpox Scare brought to the foreground the fact that the College did not provide dining facilities for students. During the quarantine, food had to be sent from town into the dormitories and distributed. Old grads remembered that years ago the milkman and the baker stopped daily at Pennsylvania Hall to supply the fellows who boarded themselves. Additional fare usually included



Society of the Bald Heads, 1905. Short-lived as a campus organization, this group was formed when students were confined in two dormitories following a misdiagnosis of a smallpox epidemic.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

molasses, dried fruit, boiled potatoes, and bologna. The more fortunate were supplied with a weekly basket from home. Cooking was done by using the fireplaces and, at a later period, the stoves in dormitory rooms. Pots and pans, kettles and utensils were kept under the bed or couch.

In order to enjoy a substantial meal and still cut down on expenses, the Pennsylvania College boys organized boarding clubs. These clubs were formed by friends who banded together and achieved a group rate by guaranteeing their patronage usually to a widow in town who would cook their meals and open the dining room of her home to them.

The boarding clubs often organized their own ball teams and played in competition. Stories of boarding club lore survive; among the most unforgettable is the tale of a student known as "Reddy," who got hit in the eye during a game of ball in front of the boarding house known among students as "Hotel de Hash." His comrades noticed a number of shad eyes that had been thrown out by the proprietress. Seizing an opportunity too good to miss, they yelled, "My God! Here is his eye!" Reddy, overcome by fright and pain, was advised to clap it in again before his friends bandaged his head with a handkerchief and hustled him off to the local doctor. Briefed on the situation by a messenger, the doctor informed poor Reddy that "if the eye was yet warm, the pupilla and lenticularis were not too much appillated and the extumescence could be extravasated, then, by a new process in ophthalmia" he thought he could replace and restore the eye. Following careful bathing and treatment with lotions and liniments, Reddy was sent back to the dormitory with his head swathed in bandages. After his discovery of the trick that had been played on him, it required only an innocent whisper of the popular expression "Oh, my eye!" to rile him to the boiling point.

Away from home and family the College boys sometimes looked upon the women who ran the boarding houses and prepared the meals as substitute mothers. One of the most enduring relationships resulted from the affection and regard that her boys held for Lydia Moul, who ran a boardinghouse before her death in 1881. As there were not sufficient means to provide a stone for her grave, two of the College boys who had been her boarders conducted a campaign to solicit funds for a proper tribute. The project reached completion, and the grave of Lydia Moul in Evergreen Cemetery is marked with a stone bearing the words, "Mother Moul."

"THE GREEN CHILDREN"

The role of parents to many a homesick College boy was also filled by the janitor, Adam Foutz, and his wife Catherine, who lived in the frame house in the area that stretched between Pennsylvania Hall and Stahley Hall. Adam, known among the boys as "Gov," began his 31 years of service to the College in 1876. Adam and Kate worked together as a team. The maintenance and custodial care of the campus buildings were Adam's responsibility. Sometimes the College boys worked with him, even helping to dig the foundations for new buildings on campus. Campus Days were organized by each class for the care of flower beds, grass, and walks and ended with a mass march to Gruel's ice cream parlor. The freshmen made Adam's job lighter each spring by their enforced participation in Dandelion Day, when they stripped the grass of golden-headed blooms. Kate assisted her husband in caring for the President's horse and milking the cows that provided fresh milk for the campus families and the boys in the dormitories. Together they worked in the large garden

near the house that yielded not only vegetables but also flowers for special occasions. Kate was a mother to many of the boys, and she provided assistance in the mending of their clothing and tender care and remedies when they were sick. Adam was remembered by the College boys for his good natured tolerance toward their pranks and for his many acts of kindness. “Gov” was usually the first member of the College staff to greet a student and the last to see him depart at the end of four years at Gettysburg. He met the incoming trains and hauled the students’ trunks by wheelbarrow or baggage cart.

The operation of the first railroad to Gettysburg in 1859 enabled students to arrive in the village by way of Hanover. On February 26, 1884, the first train on the Gettysburg and Harrisburg railroad pulled in at the new passenger depot on Washington Street. The completion of the railroad was to revolutionize travel to Gettysburg for the College boys, and they were the first passengers on the new line. It was customary for students to meet the incoming trains at the station, and they were frequently joined by townspeople to whom meeting the evening train had become a form of recreation.

Students played an important role in the recruitment process, encouraging prospective freshmen to come to Gettysburg. Repeated appeals, such as the one of June 19, 1901, appeared in the *Gettysburgian*:

Let us hope that every loyal Gettysburg man may manifest his college spirit in a substantial manner this summer by influencing as many men as possible to come our way next fall. After all the very best canvassers for any college are the students themselves; and whatever success has crowned the efforts of our College’s official representatives in the past has been due largely to student cooperation.

Freshmen were welcomed formally at a reception held in their honor by the YMCA, organized at Pennsylvania College in 1867. Prominent in the religious and social life at the College, this group sponsored prayer meetings, Bible study groups, and campus speakers. Among their most stimulating projects was an annual series of lectures, entertainments, and concerts, sponsored for town and gown in Brua Chapel.

The compilation of a student handbook, later known as the *G-Book*, was initiated and funded by the YMCA in 1907 as a means of orienting freshmen to Pennsylvania College. Among the basic information included in this little book was a list of rules imposed on freshmen, “The Green Children,” by the sophomores. These rules were also printed in green ink on yellow placards and plastered about town on store fronts, cellar doors, and telephone poles in a ritual of advertisement known as “Poster Night,” a tradition that began in 1887.

“RAH, RAH, PENNSYLVANIA!”

As the College enrollment increased, students identified themselves more completely with members of their particular class. During the 1880’s and 90’s strong class rivalries developed that resulted in the formation of Gettysburg traditions. By 1882 class hats became the popular symbols of distinction. In 1895 the freshman headgear had been changed from green to red caps with green buttons, later known as dinks. For some years winter dinks in the form of knitted stocking caps in class colors were worn during the colder months. The tradition for high white hats for seniors had begun in 1874. Canes, usually bearing an emblem designating class and college, became the fashion for juniors and seniors and remained in vogue from about 1882 to 1912. By 1889 blazers had begun to make their appearance, and by

1892 the navy blue sweater with a large orange G became popular.

The earliest visible signs of class loyalty had been ribbons in the class colors worn in the buttonhole of a coat or pinned on a vest. In 1882 a student wrote in the *Monthly*, "By the way in our enthusiasm for class colors, we seem to have forgotten the fact that we are without a college color." Pennsylvania College, however, had unofficial colors which had been listed as scarlet and canary sometimes set off with blue. The matter of colors came to the foreground during the academic year, 1889-90. Charles H. Huber, Class of 1892, described the circumstances:

The news had been brought in that "other colleges" had adopted "college caps." They were soft snug fitting caps with a visor and made, of course, in alternating stripes of the college colors as we were beginning to get a bit college conscious. . . . [A]mid much noise and enthusiasm we voted for college caps in the college colors. . . . After some correspondence with cap makers, the committee was informed that most colleges have only two colors and in addition no textile mill could be found to produce such a combination of colors as ours. One bright salesman, however, suggested that it might be easier and quicker to change our colors to something "in stock" and delicately hinted that Orange and Blue was a pretty combination and could be had and so . . . we voted unanimously for the motion.

The action was approved by the faculty, and orange and navy blue burst forth in college caps and class buttons, stamped with a pennant bearing the name of Gettysburg.

Among students and townspeople the College was becoming increasingly known as Gettysburg College, identifying it with the famous Battle and distinguishing it from other institutions which also had the name of Pennsylvania. The first step toward officially changing the name was begun by the Board of Trustees in 1889, but action was postponed indefinitely as strong opposition developed among older alumni. In athletic contests and intercollegiate debates the name Gettysburg College remained, and in response students changed the college cheers, known as yells, in order to use the popular name of the institution which finally became official in 1921.

Yells had become a means of declaring not only institutional loyalty but also the supremacy of a class. Yells were given at sports events, convocations, receptions, banquets, parties, and informal gatherings of good fellows. Yells signaled the challenge offered by sophomores to freshmen in the intense rivalries that existed between these two classes. The first event of the academic year that triggered pent up spirit was the annual class rush—an attack announced by the yell of the freshmen in the dead of night as they surprised the sophomores by their presence on the Prep Campus, ready for battle. A reporter for the *Gettysburgian* described the rush of the classes 1903 and 1904:

The Sophs who were greatly outnumbered, put up the bravest fight seen for a number of years. Men were squeezed and thumped and trampled on all sides, and at times the field looked like a battle ground with bodies strewn everywhere. . . . The fight lasted about two hours and then the Sophomores gave the yell for their conquerors and the battle was over. Probably two hundred people from town were spectators at the fray.

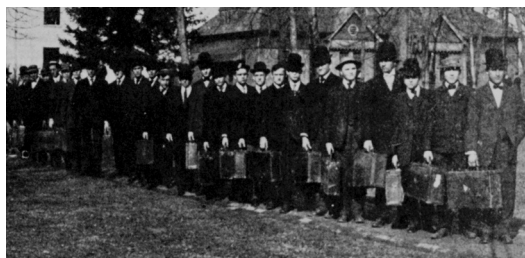
The seizing of the cupola of Pennsylvania Hall provided opportunity for further combat, allowing the frosh or sophs to fly their class banner from its glorious heights. Sometimes the approach was handled so stealthily that not only were banners flown but large class numerals appeared in bright red or green paint on the white surface of the cupola itself or blazoned from the walls of Brua Chapel or the tower of Recitation Hall.

Although there were instances when rivalries between the sophomores and the freshmen were keen and sometimes bitter, none reached the proportions of notoriety as did the happenings on February 14, 1906. While the sophomores were engaged in revelry that night at their banquet, held without permission at the Eagle Hotel, the freshmen seized the moment to paint their own class numerals on the College buildings and to suspend their class pennant at the entrance to the campus. Upon returning, the sophomores retaliated by hunting down the freshmen and forcing them to convert the '09's to '08's. In the process the sophs abused some frosh, broke down doors, smashed windows, piled up furniture, tied clothes in knots, and damaged both personal and College property. The escapade prompted a special meeting of the faculty at which twelve sophomores testified. Although the proceedings were unrecorded, the signatures of fifty-three boys survive on a statement they presented concerning their conduct:

We, the undersigned, after due consideration, do hereby submit this instrument as evidence of our equal guilt in the actions of the Class of "1908" during the night of Feb. 14th. 1906, and we do also hereby signify that it is our intention to receive the punishment, if any, as one body, for we consider ourselves equally implicated, no one member of the class being more deserving of punishment than another.

In large, bold type the headlines of the *Gettysburg Times* blared the verdict: "Half a Hundred College Boys Suspended!" The sophomores departed. Readmission began on February 20; each culprit was required to make a personal appearance before the faculty and sign a statement assuring that no further damage to property or person would occur in the name of class spirit.

Although the sophomore exodus was extraordinary, it was customary for mischief to occur while a class was absent from the dormitories attending a banquet. For this reason the time and place of these events were communicated only to the participants. Class banquets were major social events held fashionably late in the evening at one of the local hotels. A march to the dining room preceded a sumptuous feast and an evening filled with puns, jokes, and clever repartee. At the conclusion of the meal, toasts were given, and while cigar smoke filled the room, classmates applauded the speeches, cheered the virtues of their class, extolled the ladies of their hearts, shared in the humor that could be found in caricatures of the faculty and their fellow students, and recalled the fun they shared and the pranks they played.



Sophomore Exodus, 1907.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

I CONFER UPON YOU . . .

Class banquets and the traditions formed from class loyalties were the province of male students at Gettysburg even though the Board of Trustees had authorized the faculty in 1885 "to admit young ladies to College who are sufficiently prepared." Although this decision had been made, Pennsylvania College did not consider itself a coeducational institution. The status of the women who entered might be compared to that of special students. They attended classes but were not expected to participate fully in the total life of the College. As there were no

dormitories available to women, most of the young ladies lived at home or with relatives in town. The first woman to enter Pennsylvania College enrolled as a freshman in 1888. Her name was Beulah Tipton, daughter of the well known Gettysburg photographer, W.H. Tipton, and she remained enrolled for one and one-half years.

Cora Elizabeth Hartman, a native of Mummasburg, became the first woman graduate of Pennsylvania College in 1894. Reflecting on her college days in an article in the *Gettysburg Mercury*, May 1898, Cora Hartman Berkey wrote that she “had the opportunity of entering in the fall of 1889, a member of the then largest class in the history of the institution—one girl among sixty boys.” She indicated that “at that time the reception of women was new, an experiment in fact, and not a few men were opposed to the measure; the upper class men were most noticeable.” Her attendance at the College was interrupted, and thus she later became a member of the class of 1894.

Sharing the honor with her classmate, Margaret Himes followed Cora Hartman in alphabetical sequence on graduation day. The daughter of Professor John A. Himes, Margaret was listed first under honors of the First Grade on the 1894 commencement program.

As the Class of 1894 did not wear academic robes, the coed graduates wore white. Graduation exercises had followed a traditional pattern since the first commencement in 1834, when Jacob Barnitz Bacon became the first of three graduates to receive a diploma from Pennsylvania College. It had become customary for each student to deliver an oration. As the College enrollment increased, these speeches were interspersed with musical selections as a restorative. This annual event had become one of considerable social significance at which a large crowd gathered at the College Church on Chambersburg Street to await the arrival of the procession that included faculty, graduating seniors, and underclassmen still on campus. Each speech was followed by applause and the presentation of flowers and graduation gifts, such as watches, books, and bank checks, until the seniors’ chairs overflowed in abundance. In 1892 the editor of the *Gettysburgian* voiced student opinion: “We think the time has fully come when the number of Senior orations at Commencement should be limited. On account of the size of recent graduating classes they have been divided into two sections. . . . The class of ’93 has over fifty members. To hear them all would be a weariness leading almost to collapse.” Apparently the faculty and the Board agreed, for by 1897 only ten speakers were chosen.

In addition to speeches at the formal commencement, other traditions were becoming part of graduation time at Pennsylvania College. The class of 1895 was the first to wear academic apparel for the exercises. Caps and gowns were ordered early, and it was customary for seniors to wear them to Saturday classes and to church services during the last few months of the academic year. During graduation week the seniors in cap and gown marched to the strains of an orchestra for the celebration of Class Day, a tradition begun in 1891 as a time for reading the class history, the class poem, and the class prophecy. The ivy poem, composed by a member of the class, and the planting of the ivy became part of the program by 1893. Years later this tradition included ivy from well known universities in the United States and abroad and the recognition of three graduating seniors for their accomplishments by having them bear the bowl, the spoon, and the spade used in the planting ceremony.

The President and his family always treated the seniors to a sumptuous repast in the White House. It had also become customary to hold a Presidential commencement reception. During such an occasion in 1891 Recitation Hall was brilliantly lighted, and

its corridors were filled with attractive and delightful company, who enjoyed delectable refreshments in the large hall on the second floor and listened to the orchestra. A student noted that “the charming ladies in beautiful dress made the halls look gay. All over the campus were strung gaily colored Chinese lanterns.” The gala affair brought together students, visitors, townspeople, faculty, trustees, and alumni.

As graduates recalled the fun they had as students at Pennsylvania College, they undoubtedly ranked the senior excursion as one of the highlights of their College days. Conducted by Professor Edward S. Breidenbaugh, affectionately known as “Breidie,” the trip assured the boys of good food and plenty of camaraderie. Although these excursions by carriage or train were pleasurable jaunts, they were designed to expose the seniors to the mineralogical and geological wonders of the earth. As the horses took their passengers into the mountains, stops were made in various parts of Pennsylvania to allow the boys to visit iron works and mines that yielded copper, zinc, or coal. On some of the trips the train stretched across the miles to deposit a cargo of excited boys at such scenic wonders of nature as Watkins Glen, the Natural Bridge, Luray Caverns, or Niagara Falls.

A YOUNG MAN’S FANCY

Memories of good times at Gettysburg were infused with the delight of the marvelous Washington’s Birthday Parades. Early in the morning of February 22, drums rattled through the dormitory halls signaling that day had dawned and that it was time to scramble before “fall-in” on the steps of Pennsylvania Hall. The characters that tramped into town were shaped by student imagination. There were monsters, Civil War soldiers, babies, Indians, literary characters and historical figures, Irishmen and firemen, and boys dressed up as ladies. The parade moved around the square and through the streets accompanied by the excitement of the townspeople.

The completion of a Latin text provided a cause for public celebration. The moment of rejoicing usually took the form of a mock cremation service at which the body of Livy or Cicero was offered to the gods with appropriate speeches and accompanying ritual.

During the 1880s and 1890s organized sports began to absorb the energies of the boys at Pennsylvania College. Teams were formed and coached by students despite the qualms of the faculty and opposition from the Lutheran synods on the grounds that intercollegiate athletics detracted from the academic program. Track had its start in 1879. Baseball, organized as a team sport, was officially introduced in 1881. The College boys cheered their team during the first football season in 1890, which opened with a game between Gettysburg and Millersville Normal School. Tennis had gained in popularity, and the first tennis tournament at Pennsylvania College in 1890 gave it added impetus on campus. “The delightful and healthy pastime, tennis, is being indulged in by all who dare to wield the racquet. Twelve courts are now in daily use,” observed an editor for the *Pennsylvania College Monthly* in October 1892. An interest in gymnastics and muscle building spurred the formation of the Sons of Hercules in 1893. Basketball, a late comer, entered the sports scene in 1901.

With the appearance of good weather, the Pennsylvania College boys crowded the street in front of their favorite hangout, Amos Eckert’s men’s store on the northwest corner of Chambersburg Street on the Square, and often blocked traffic as they stood along the pavements. Those boys who were more fortunate enjoyed what was becoming the national rage—bicycle riding. The first bicycles on campus appeared in 1882 as the private property of three students. The number increased

gradually, and by 1888 a student wrote, "The bicycle riding on Campus every evening is very entertaining. The wheel men roll over the walks very gracefully and rapidly." By 1897 wheels were everywhere.

A popular hobby, photography, captured the interests of the boys of Pennsylvania College. "Kodaks! Yes, they are here," announced the *Gettysburgian* on April 20, 1897. "A short time ago they enjoyed the favor of but a few, but now their name is legion. Those who are not initiated into the deep and dark mystery of amateur photography know not the exquisite recreation these little instruments give to their possessors." Dormitory walls and bureau tops became filled with photographs. Since the early 1870s students had exchanged pictures as *cartes de visite* among themselves and included them in albums that also contained autographs. The *Spectrum*, the College annual published by the junior class and first issued in the spring of 1891, became a picture gallery of College friends and a chronicle of College days.

The favorite photograph for a Pennsylvania College boy was the picture of the young lady who, for the moment at least, had captured his heart. Those boys who visited a girl regularly were called "fussers"; dating, formerly spoken of as "making a mash," was known as "fussing." If a fellow spent much time at the home of a girl in town, he could expect to be surprised some evening by a thud on her front porch that announced the arrival of his trunk, completely packed, through the efforts of his pals in the dormitory. This prank had become standard practice in the late 1870s and remained popular for many years. Those who later helped to keep it in style sometimes embellished its effect by delivering not only the trunk but also a fellow's bed, his bureau drawers, and sometimes even his rug and the pictures from the walls of his room.

As thoughts of springtime turned to romance, they also turned to singing. Congregating in front of Old Dorm in the moonlight on balmy evenings led to "step-singing" as heels tapped on the iron steps and voices combined in old favorites or popular college songs to the accompaniment of mandolins. To many of the fellows these moments symbolized the Gettysburg spirit.

A View From the Forum, 1910-1941

Amidst pouring rain the crowd drew together on the portico to share in good fellowship and high spirits undampened by the weather. Cigars and pipes were passed around, musical selections were rendered, and speeches especially for the occasion were given. The benches had arrived, and now on a Saturday night in October 1913, their formal presentation was made by Dean Philip Bikelé on behalf of the faculty to the juniors and seniors in a ceremony that designated the portico of Old Dorm as “The Forum,” the first student retreat on campus. The *Gettysburgian* explained:

Dr. Granville and the faculty have kindly given to us these benches with the idea that we may gather there to sing our songs and give our yells and mingle with each other in all matters agreeable to us. Heretofore the students have had no meeting place where they could conveniently assemble at any time, so that this courtesy on the part of the faculty fills in a long needed want, and gives us an assembly place comfortably fitted and beautifully situated in the open air. . . .

The sacred Forum provided an arena for debate, space for rehearsals for concerts, and a place for upperclassmen to socialize. It was also to become the scene for the proceedings of the Tribunal, a court instigated by the Student Council in 1923 as a means of enforcing freshman customs imposed by the sophomores. Here, in view of the student body and amid the shouts and jeers of those present, a frosh could be properly humiliated. Some years later these occasions became known as “Roman Holidays.” An observer described the operation of the court at noonday on Friday, October 13, 1933:

Completely shorn of their pristine insolency and effrontery, eight lambs stood, their bare knees knocking together, upon the ancient iron steps . . . in their stark terror at the righteous anger of an outraged Student Body and their grim instrument of execution, the Student Tribunal. In meek submission the one-time recalcitrant, now repentant yearlings obeyed every whim of their tormentors. Dinks were doffed and dinks were donned, only to be doffed again at popular request. Songs were sung. Faltering confessions were made in wee, small voices telling the audacity of each crime. . . .

Penalties, usually effective for a week or two, were assigned to fit the trespass, and the more ridiculous the punishment, the more entertainment it afforded the upperclassmen. A freshman who had been negligent in wearing the regulation black tie might find himself required to sport a large set of white cuffs and a collar offset with a flowing bow tie that complemented the sign on his back: “Blest be the tie that binds.” The forgetful frosh without a dink sometimes wore a peach basket covering his head and a placard, “Protection from woodpeckers.” Those who failed to supply upperclassmen with matches upon request carried boxes of kindling wood or lugged

a wood beam. The boys who were discovered talking to girls displayed their impropriety on campus attired in a dress or nightdress. The most severe treatment decreed by the Tribunal involved headshearing. To the cries of “Haircut! Haircut!” by the onlookers, a student barber shaved the victim’s head, often in the pattern of two alleys running crisscross for a comic effect.

The rules for freshman customs were issued formally by the Class of 1910, and as a document they were known as “The Ten Commandments.” To insure enforcement, inspections were held as freshmen left required morning services at Brua Chapel. On occasion the sophomores managed to nail the doors of the chapel, shutting in the freshmen, who were the last to leave.

Prior to 1910 a secret organization, Sigma Beta, known as the Sophomore Band, operated undercover to initiate and punish freshmen. At midnight, members of the Band would appear at the doors of the dormitory rooms as masked men in black robes and hoods to seize cocky freshmen for a ride into the country. There the neophytes would be put in shape by the use of large wooden paddles. The Sophomore Band was legalized by the Student Council in 1910 to help enforce freshman customs. Outlawed in 1914 because of the severity of their punishments, the Band continued to operate in secret until their activities were disrupted by World War I. By 1919 another secret group that hazed freshmen at night on the Battlefield came into being and called themselves the “Woozies.” Continued concern by faculty and students regarding the physical abuse associated with “midnight hazing” resulted in the formation of the Tribunal to mete out harmless punishments as Daylight Discipline in view of the student body.

“A BAND OF GOOD FELLOWS”

Efforts were made to abolish class rushes in 1901 because of injuries resulting from the rough conflict generated by some students. The terrible clash of the classes of 1912 and 1913 that occurred on the night of the sophomore banquet, as frosh met soph in the streets and alleys of the town, brought an end to class fights. That same year, 1910, another approach was tried—the tie-up on Nixon Field, in which sophomores and freshmen competed by trying to tie up members of the opposing class by using pieces of rope eighteen inches in length, thereby eliminating them from the contest for survival. By 1924 the injuries incurred at the annual tie-ups forced the cancellation of this activity and the substitution of a push-ball contest. For this event a huge ball, seven feet in diameter, was purchased for \$400. At this time the tug-of-war, a tradition since 1910, was held on the banks of the Tiber; a dunking in the stream and water hosed by the local fire company added to the excitement of the event as the fellows struggled for the glory of their class. A shoe battle was sometimes included in which freshmen removed their shoes and fought in a mad scramble to reclaim them from the heap.

Poverty Day, initiated in 1927, offered the freshmen an opportunity to celebrate



Sophomore Band, from Frank Kramer (Class of 1914) Collection.

Courtesy of Special Collections, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.

the end of customs by burning dinks and regulation black ties and socks in a huge bonfire ignited from refuse collected from campus and the streets of town. This annual occasion, continued until 1930, brought forth the freshmen as hoboes reveling in old clothes and rejoicing in their new freedom.

Among the rites of initiation to Gettysburg, the freshman pajama parade during football season remained unforgettable to the local inhabitants. An eyewitness account from the *Gettysburgian* records some of the merriment in November 1939:

Reviving the spirit and love-of-fun which have long-figured in Gettysburg tradition, a hilarious band of not-so-innocent pajama-clad freshmen aroused the campus and peaceful metropolis with bonfires, snake dancing, and general mischief Friday night. . . . They amused themselves . . . dancing through stores, exciting clerks and customers, and penetrating the well-nigh impregnable defenses of the Majestic Theatre.

In almost a twinkling a large fire was blazing in the town's center square. Boxes, gates, old tires, fences, and anything else found to be burnable contributed to the blaze. . . .

These nights in town called forth high spirits among the entire student body, and often the evening's adventure ended with a show at the Majestic Theatre. The theater manager during the 1930s recalled the riotousness he had encountered:

As many as 400 or 500 boys could be successful in obtaining free admission by disposing of the ticket taker. In the mad rush for entrance to the theater damage would often result to the outside of the building. The box office always had the windows broken by a hurling missile. . . .

In addition to being boisterous, the rioters would engage in individual conflicts. Once the screen was broken by a freshman being hurled through it. For their few seconds of fun the freshman class involved in this particular incident had to pay several hundred dollars for a new screen.

Escapades in town often followed the high spirits generated by pep rallies, led by the president of the student body accompanied by the cheering and singing of the crowd that jammed Brua Chapel. The College band contributed to the general excitement by sometimes providing accompaniment to "fight" and victory songs. These instrumentalists traced their origins to 1910 with the formation of a group to play at football games. The band expanded its role in 1925 under the energetic direction of Bertram Saltzer, professor of mechanical engineering, who also enlarged its repertoire with some of his own arrangements during fifteen years of service. One of the most popular pieces played by the band was "As Softly the Evening Shadows," with music by Frederick Reinartz '24 and words by Paul Gilbert '22. Introduced at a pep meeting in November 1921, the new song grew out of student demand and was officially recognized as the alma mater in 1953 by the Board of Trustees.

TOWARD A "GREATER GETTYSBURG"

Although incidents of unruliness occurred, students assumed increasingly more responsibility for their own behavior. A growing concern by students for involvement had its official beginning with the organization of the Student Council in 1910. Approved by the faculty and the Board of Trustees, the council included representatives from the four classes. The constitution stated that "the purpose of the council is to strive for the betterment of student conditions of Gettysburg and to provide in every possible way for the maintenance of a high standard of student morals." The improvement of dormitory life through student cooperation proved to be one of the main efforts of the Council. A student writing for the *Gettysburgian*

commented: "For the first year in the history of the institution we have had student government. It has proved that there is only one right way of handling students and that is by the Students themselves. Many things have been accomplished that could have never been done in any other way."

Services to meet personal needs of the student body at Gettysburg during the early twentieth century often originated as student enterprises. A student reading the *Gettysburgian* was urged to patronize classmates who operated a lunch service, a clothes pressing shop, or a barber shop in their various dorm rooms. The College Bookstore had its beginnings in Old Dorm in 1904, shifting in location at first from one room to another as its owner became a graduate and sold his concession. Ads for the College Store announced the availability of books, stationery, and school supplies. Soon the merchandise also included soaps and shaving creams, Hershey bars and Sunshine Biscuits, pretzels and chewing gum. Prior to this business venture, students purchased textbooks at Buehler's Drug Store on Chambersburg Street. As the College Bookstore expanded its facilities in the southwest corner room on the first floor of the Old Dorm, student owners increased its stock and its services. Later the store became the only place on campus where one could grab a sandwich or enjoy milkshakes or ice cream at the soda fountain installed in 1932.

Editorials in the *Gettysburgian* kept the administration and faculty aware of student concerns. In April 1915 the *Gettysburgian* had been assigned its first office, 340 South Dorm, through student petition to the faculty. Regular hours were maintained by the staff, and the editor-in-chief could be found working at a large roll-top desk. In 1920 the publication was converted from a journal to a newspaper in both content and format. Through the efforts of capable editors in the 1920s and 1930s, student opinion became effective. By 1938 the *Burgian*, as the paper was known in the College, entered competitions with other collegiate newspapers and became the frequent recipient of first place awards and superior ratings issued by the Intercollegiate Newspaper Association and the Associated Collegiate Press.

A cluster of students on campus wanted a more frequent and informal avenue to vent criticism and to keep the campus informed. On the morning of November 5, 1921, there appeared on the bulletin board in Glatfelter Hall a typewritten newsletter, *The Blister*. Students and faculty began to await its anonymous daily appearance and avidly followed its caustic comments and cartoons. In existence sporadically until 1929, *The Blister* faced competition from other shortlived newsheets, *The Hot Towel*, *Brass Tax*, and *Jabberwocky*.

The involvement of students in responsibility for their life and education at Pennsylvania College had developed as part of the thrust of President William Anthony Granville toward what he termed a "Greater Gettysburg." Students participated with new spirit in an inaugural celebration on October 9, 1910, in which the campus glowed with the light of five hundred Japanese lanterns as well as numerous arc lights and electric bulbs outlining Old Dorm. The entire student body joined a procession of more than six hundred that moved from the rear of Recitation Hall to a large tent on the banks of the Tiber for the formal ceremony of induction. From the inaugural address it was evident that the new President, who had come from Yale University with a Ph.D. degree, would have a different approach.

In addition to the introduction of student government and the encouragement of student cooperation and enthusiasm for a "Greater Gettysburg," President Granville spearheaded changes in the curriculum that had been planned for some

time to offer students wider choices than the two established programs, the classical and the scientific. By 1911-12 groups of courses provided options, focused toward preparation for the professions, until majors and minors came into effect in 1921-22. Other departures from tradition included programs in engineering, political science, and commerce and finance.

WAR CLOUDS GATHER

Darkening war clouds in Europe precipitated another innovation in the curriculum—military training. By December 1916 the Reserve Officer Training Corps was in operation and Pennsylvania College became one of the first institutions to begin this program under the auspices of the War Department. Those who followed the progress of the battalion could watch about three hundred young men drilling and marching on campus in the afternoons.

As the *Gettysburgian* went to press on April 4, 1917, the editors noted:

Congress is in the act of declaring war. We have not wished war, but it is now our duty to enter; and it is up to everyone of us here to take his part. This does not mean that it is necessary for everyone of us to enlist immediately. We can do great and lasting good for our country right where we are, meanwhile having the opportunity to train ourselves for war service should it be necessary.

The eventuality of student involvement in the war spurred a wave of patriotism that became contagious. “War activities are the subject of discussion in every room and in every nook and corner of the campus” wrote a reporter for the *Gettysburgian*. “Everybody has the spirit and would be glad to get out of the routine of school work and do something that would count in the present need of the country.”

Enthusiasm heightened as the first recruits from Pennsylvania College left by train for Fort Niagara, New York, on May 10 amidst the singing of college songs and the shouts and yells of their fellow students. Those who remained were reminded of the courage of their classmates each morning in chapel as they noted the number of stars on the 8' x 12' service flag that hung beyond the platform in honor of the men who had entered the armed forces since war had been declared. A feeling of uneasiness pervaded the campus. One student commented in December 1917:

Men are leaving school every week, some drafted, some enlisting, others preparing for the draft call which is sure to get them. . . . The restless student feels vaguely that he should not be in college, but should be out with those of his friends who have left. He cannot make up his mind that he should leave college for any definite purpose and yet he cannot get down and concentrate.

A concern for world affairs began to enter the pages of the *Gettysburgian* as students reacted to news from the front and realized that events abroad could influence their immediate futures. Classes had become small, and by the winter of 1918 the faculty decided to suspend chapel services and discontinue social activities in order to conserve coal during wartime. By summer Congress had issued a provision for the nation's colleges to be used as training schools for young men entering military service as a temporary measure to meet the national emergency. A visitor to Pennsylvania College would have found the campus occupied by about 350 khaki-clad young men enrolled in the Student Army Training Corps (SATC). Under contract by the War Department through December, the College provided instruction to meet the needs of these young men, opened the dormitories, set up a kitchen in Stevens Hall convenient to their adjacent mess barracks, and designated the ATO fraternity house on Washington Street

as an infirmary for care and comfort during the influenza epidemic.

By January 1918 regular classes began again. Enrollment had dropped to about 332; however, within four years the student body would number over five hundred for the first time. Those students who returned after the War were conscious of a lull in campus activities, a pervading listlessness, and a need to focus their energies on what they termed “reconstruction.” Discussion groups were formed through the encouragement of the campus YMCA in fraternities and boarding clubs to talk about problems confronting the nation and the College. During the fall of 1918 a student commented:

This is the first normal year since the war. . . . [B]y eleven o'clock the campus was a scene of rushing and excited students, some chatting over old days, some renewing old acquaintanceships, some making new friendships, and all clasping the hands of our war heroes and welcoming them home again. It gave every one the feeling of the old days of comradeship and association. Our campus rang out with the hilarity and joy of a meeting once again under normal conditions to continue academic careers.

EVENINGS TO REMEMBER

Although the war had brought a new seriousness to the college student, a growing lightheartedness began to take its place as the mood of the nation shifted to a feeling of abandon and frivolity that accompanied an emerging economic prosperity. For the college bound, the “Roaring Twenties” brought with them a spirit of rebellion that questioned the authority of elders, flaunted a freedom that showed itself in daring new styles, with shorter skirts and bobbed hair for girls, and a more liberating social life that included dates in automobiles, late night parties, and an intoxicating new rhythm known as jazz.

Pennsylvania College students tried to recapture the momentum of campus activities they had experienced before the war. With the heralding of a new decade the highlight of the social life at Gettysburg, the Junior Prom, began to assume unprecedented elegance and taste. The annual promenade, begun as an event in 1907, was given by the juniors in honor of the seniors. Glatfelter Hall rocked with rhythm as college girls from Wilson or Hood, Irving or Goucher, as well as hometown sweethearts, glided and swayed with Gettysburg boys in the “Sweat Box” to the strains of the guest orchestra. This room became transformed from its daytime role as an examination hall, on the north end of the second floor, to the only dance facility on campus. Students had paid for the hardwood and laid the floor themselves in 1910; prior to that year dances were held in St. Francis Xavier Hall on High Street.

Through the eyes of participants writing for the *Gettysburgian*, memories of the Junior Prom of the Class of 1921 remain to lend enchantment to an April evening in 1920: “At last the critical hour approaches and the excited Juniors with abated [sic] breath await the fateful night which will bring them in one grand burst of magnificence to the climax of their social careers.” And then the big moment arrived:

At eight-thirty cars began to arrive before the entrance to old Glatfelter and from them, tripping gracefully up the big front steps came a display of dazzling beauty. The gentlemen escorts gathered in the halls, and shortly after nine o'clock, everything being in readiness the couples passed one by one into the reception hall where they paid their respects to the patrons and patronesses. . . . [E]ven as they entered the orchestra burst into the tuneful melody. A few moments and they were gliding off down the floor, while the rhythm of the music ebbed and swelled.

The strains of the last waltz faded at 1:30 a.m., and the dancers gathered at the Eagle Hotel for a sumptuous repast served in elegant style.

These evenings in settings of crepe paper bunting, potted palms, college pennants, and boughs of pine and spruce were documented with nostalgia for the assembled company by a local photographer. As decorations became more elaborate, the dancers found themselves entering bowers of roses in moonlight, halls of an Egyptian palace, or a Japanese garden graced by a pagoda. After the dance floor in the "Sweat Box" had become too crowded by 1922, the gala event was held in the Academy Building, later known as Huber Hall, where lobby and dining room were thrown open for an evening to remember.

The twenties brought with them the increased popularity of the smoker, begun at Gettysburg in 1912 as a night of wit and camaraderie when jolly good fellows gathered as a class in the "Sweat Box" amidst a profusion of cigarettes, pipes, and cigars. A lively, informal program of jokes, stories, and impromptu speeches would be interrupted by musical discords played by such groups as the Prickly Heat Junior Quartet. Usually these uproarious good times in the smoke-filled room did not come to a halt until the janitors turned down the heat in Glatfelter Hall for the night.

At class banquets sophomores and freshmen attained new heights of exuberance. They kept the management of the local hotels in a state of excitement and disturbed the slumbers of the townspeople in the early morning hours. It had become customary for sophomores to haul freshmen into the country in the afternoon, tie them up, take their shoes, and thus make it difficult for them to return for their banquet in the evening. Strategic attempts were often made to avoid this dilemma. Thus, on the night of April 9, 1923, one freshman entered a banquet hotel disguised as a carpenter while another arrived in a laundry basket. Among those who gathered to celebrate the merits of the class of 1929, one group escaped a band of sophomores by climbing over the housetops to reach the Eagle Hotel on Chambersburg Street.

The hazards of these events prompted the class of 1929 to take the initiative to replace the freshman banquet with a Frosh-Soph Hop, which became an annual tradition. This occasion was to provide one of the last great flings of Gettysburg during the twenties, as McKinney's Cotton Pickers provided syncopation for dancing on the night of April 12, 1929, in Eddie Plank Gym, transformed into a courtyard of palms with terraces of flowers.

The mood and tempo of the decade had been captured within the pages of the *Cannon Bawl*, published on campus from 1924 until 1928, when increasing debts forced it out of existence. Under the leadership of Raymond Baublitz '25, editor, and John Koontz '26, artist, the *Cannon Bawl* first appeared on Father and Son Day, November 15, 1924, and satirized the lowly freshman. The students wanted more. The next issue of the *Cannon Bawl*, published during the weekend of the Junior Prom, sold out under the theme: "On with the bawl, let joy be unrefined."

FROM THE "CIGAR BOX"

The coeds received their share of banter in the *Cannon Bawl*. Although women attended classes at Gettysburg and their numbers increased from twenty-three in 1920 to eighty in 1925, they were still not considered an integral part of campus life. A decision made by the Board of Trustees prohibited the admission of women students after 1926-27 but permitted those enrolled to complete their program. Dormitories were not provided for women, and most organizations on

campus had been formed in the interest of men students. The coeds had as their own place a small room near the stairs in the lobby of Glatfelter Hall. It was known as the "Cigar Box," and it offered only enough space to accommodate coats, books, or bag lunches. Taking initiative, the women organized their own activities—a glee club, a YWCA program, a basketball team, and a rifle team. The coed tribunal they established in 1925 originated freshman customs for women and supervised enforcement of such rules as the wearing of black stockings and green arm bands and abstinence from rouge, powder, rolled socks, or fancy garters. Some years later customs for women also entailed carrying dolls and wearing clothing inside-out and backwards. Inspection was conducted by sophomore women at compulsory "line-ups."

In December 1926 the coeds petitioned the faculty that they be allowed to attend the morning services in Brua Chapel. The request was granted, and the women were allowed to sit in the unused balcony, which they cleaned. An editor for the *Gettysburgian* wrote,

The coeds here are slowly but surely coming to the point of their being recognized as one of the many groups on the campus who take part in the development of the future welfare of the college. . . . Their activities on campus are an asset to the progressiveness of Gettysburg College and the girls feel that due credit should be given to them for their efforts.

To promote their social life and to gain cohesiveness, the women students took active roles in two early sororities, Beta Lambda, organized in 1916 and later nationalized as Beta Lambda Chapter of Delta Gamma in 1939, and Gamma Phi, founded in 1923 and known by 1937 as Tau Delta Chapter of Chi Omega, the first national women's sorority on campus. The earliest attempt at organizing a secret society for women at Pennsylvania College had occurred in 1905 with the formation of a local group, Iota Lambda Delta.

The presence of women students had become an important element for consideration in casting the productions of the dramatic club, founded in 1913 and later known as Owl and Nightingale. Sometimes women's roles had to be filled by guests, and on a few occasions all-male casts were used. The first play presented by O. & N., *The Romancers*, by Edmund Rostand, had been staged in the open air on a slight rise west of Brua Chapel during the evening of June 6, 1914. The activities of Owl and Nightingale increased in enthusiasm and momentum under the direction of Dr. Richard Arms, head of the Mathematics Department. His own deep interest in writing, reading, and producing plays was contagious. Under his leadership, from 1922 to 1960, students at Gettysburg acted in a variety of comedies, farces, and mystery plays for the entertainment of classmates and townspeople.

The first musical comedy staged on campus was a performance of *The Only Girl* in 1925. The following year the glee clubs and the orchestra combined with O. & N. to produce *The Red Mill*, by Victor Herbert, in the Majestic Theatre. In 1927 Owl and Nightingale attempted its first Shakespearean production, *The Merchant of Venice*, staged in the newly completed Eddie Plank Gymnasium, where the group now performed because of the limited seating capacity in Brua Chapel. During the early years as a club, O. & N. also took its productions on the road to perform in nearby communities.

WELCOME TO THE 'BURG!

In 1927 Dr. Frank Kramer, head of the Education Department and assistant to the President, formed a small student group known as Campus Beautiful. As a result of their labors, flowering crabapple, quince, cherry, and redbud sent forth their

blossoms in the springtime. Bright spots of color were provided by tulips, hyacinths, crocuses, and forsythia set against the darker hues of evergreens. Campus Beautiful, supported through the generosity of friends of the College and funds from the administration, functioned as a student project until 1934. During these years the island between the two branches of the Tiber was transformed by Phi Gamma Delta into Stahler Memorial Gardens, a romantic spot for many a young couple who crossed the white stone bridge that spanned the lagoon. Pairs of white swans, Hansel and Gretel and later Romeo and Juliet, provided a touch of grace to this picturesque retreat.

With the increased scheduling of special events, more visitors continued to come to the campus. On November 15, 1924, the first Father and Son Day brought an invasion of over three hundred fathers to share in College activities. They attended classes, toured the Battlefield, watched Gettysburg beat St. John's at football, relaxed at fraternity smokers, and dined on Adams County spring chicken at the Eagle Hotel where they were entertained by the Peacock Serenaders. The success of this event in acquainting parents with the College resulted in the establishment of an annual tradition, as well as the impetus for Mother's Day, begun on May 16, 1925, and planned in similar format. Both events were sponsored by Kappa Phi Kappa, the men's honorary society in education, under the leadership of Dr. Frank Kramer. Their celebration signaled Gettysburg as one of the first colleges in the country to incorporate special days for parents in its program. In 1936 the Mother's Day program included a maypole dance in honor of a May Queen and her court elected by the women students. Staged in the setting of the Memorial Gardens near the present site of Christ Chapel, this lovely occasion became a campus tradition and served as a "moving up" ceremony, for each girl exchanged ribbons to receive the color signifying her rank for the coming year.

The support and encouragement for these occasions came from the College President, Dr. Henry W.A. Hanson, who took office in 1923 and brought to the campus a combination of magnetism and dedication. His warm personal interest in the individual student was focused in a concern for the spiritual and intellectual growth of the young people entrusted to his care. During the twenty-nine years of his presidency, Henry W.A. Hanson infused the campus scene with his own brand of idealism. Certain maxims he stressed became unforgettable to the student body. Among them were the "three nos for a Gettysburg gentleman: no cheating, no drinking, no immorality." He frequently reminded students: "Scratch the skin of a Gettysburg man and underneath you'll find a gentleman."

President Hanson's attention to the needs of freshmen in their adjustment academically and socially to life at Gettysburg College led to the introduction of an orientation program in 1924. As it developed, a required orientation course was introduced in 1925, and in September 1927 the first freshman week was scheduled.

The growing concern with student life on the part of the administration prompted the establishment of the Office of Dean of Men in 1926. The position was held briefly by Dr. Jerome Jackson; the responsibilities of this office were later filled by Dr. Wilbur E. Tilberg, who served the College as dean from 1927-1955. Regarded with warmth and affection, Dean Tilberg endeared himself to the student body and became informally known as "Wifty."

In an effort to recognize student scholastic achievement Gettysburg College issued its first dean's list in 1930 and continued this practice at the end of each grading period. The Iota Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, established at the College in 1923, also honored accomplishment in the election of outstanding students as members.

COEDS ARE BACK!

By September 1929 student enrollment at Gettysburg College had peaked at 622. A month later the stock market crashed, and the nation was plunged into the worst economic crisis in its history. Bread lines formed on city streets, and unemployment statistics spiraled. The College reached its 100-year mark at the height of the depression. The Centennial, celebrated in 1932, reaffirmed the identity of the institution. In the words of President Henry W.A. Hanson it was “a college founded in simplicity, and inculcated with a moral earnestness of purpose; a college which thinks of and builds, and has for its ideal Christian character.” Both the President and the faculty had become involved in student recruitment out of necessity as enrollment had dropped to 532 by 1932 and later reached a low of 480 in 1934. Families had become economically crippled, and it had become increasingly difficult for many of the students to remain in college. One student voiced his concern in the *Gettysburgian*, February 12, 1931: “Again and again money matters have bothered us. . . . On the contrary, the financial depression outside has brought matters close to a crisis. Many of us do not know where to turn next for help.”

The same needs were expressed in 1934 in the graduation issue of the *Gettysburgian*:

At present there are many Seniors on the campus who have had to battle to get through and many underclassmen who are now struggling with unfavorable financial situations. Usually such men can be found, compelled by the pinch of necessity, working in grocery stores, digging gardens, taking care of lawns, or working for the college in various capacities. . . . In addition, there are men on campus who are eating but one meal a day, and imperiling their health just for the sake of being able to remain in college.

To insure the survival of campus activities during the depression, the Student Council proposed a plan known as the Student Chest. Beginning in 1931 the College assessed each student \$5 per semester so that funds could be provided from the Student Chest for the *Gettysburgian*, the *G-Book*, the *Mercury*, YMCA, Owl and Nightingale, the debating club, the music associations, and the Student Council.

The continued strain on the economy brought the College to the realization that the admission of women students would help stabilize the enrollment. Thus, action was authorized by the Board of Trustees at a special meeting on April 4, 1935, to convert the academy buildings into facilities for women. The Gettysburg Academy, popularly known as “Prep,” closed its doors in May 1935.

A subject of much debate and controversy, coeducation at Gettysburg College had finally become a reality. The headlines of the *Gettysburgian* blared: “College to Accept Co-Eds.” Former editor, Henry W. Snyder '37, wrote two years later:

We got the tip-off on Tuesday night and two of us sat up until 4 o'clock the next morning clearing everything off the desk in order that what we considered “the story of the century” might be run through in good style the next day. Three-column head and full-page streamer were both written at 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, and we spent Wednesday evening making up the paper, tense at the thought that suspicions were already creeping out on the campus, and at the same time praying that the Board of Trustees would come through on Thursday morning, for the type had already been set for co-education at Gettysburg.

By September 1935, fifty-five women were enrolled in a student body of 524. The Board of Trustees specified that the number of women should not exceed 150 during an academic year, a quota that was reached in 1937. Huber Hall, renovated for its new

role, echoed with the sound of girlish laughter in the halls, the buzz of dorm meetings, the shrieks and yells from Halloween parties in the attic, or the joyful notes of caroling in the parlor. In 1936, one year later, Stevens Hall was remodeled to accommodate women. Together these two dormitories formed the Women's Division, known informally as "the W.D." The name itself indicated a separateness which was keenly felt by the women themselves until the decrease in the enrollment of men in Gettysburg College during World War II enabled women to take a more assertive role in campus activities. The women formed their own governing body, the Women's Student Government. Housemothers supervised dormitory life and cooperated with a resident Lutheran deaconess, Sister Nora McCombs, in matters concerning residential life. The retirement of Dr. Charles H. Huber, former headmaster of the Academy and head of the Women's Division, resulted in the appointment of a Dean of Women in 1941. Elizabeth Connelly held the post briefly; Dean Dorothy Lee was appointed in 1942.

Integration of men and women in the process of creating a truly coeducational institution took place gradually. Reactions to the changes were mixed. There were those who felt that the presence of women provided a good influence for the male student body in the improvement of standards in dress, speech, and behavior. Others noted that the scholastic achievements of Gettysburg's young women forced the men into competition in order to keep pace.

Women students on campus changed the complexion of the social life and precipitated comments from both men and women urging the establishment of a more adequate program of activities and a recreation center for informal mixing, dances, and refreshments. Weidensall Hall, completed in 1922 through funds provided by the Woman's League of Gettysburg College, served partially as a student center operated under the direction of the campus YMCA. Taking charge of the Y and its activities from 1918-1927, Bill Wood, football coach, brought to the program enthusiasm, a magnetic personality, and a rugged Christian faith. Facilities in Weidensall were available for swimming, playing billiards, ping pong, or chess. In the comfortable lounges one could listen to records or read for pleasure. In Weidensall the Y held carnivals and parties and conducted its programs and discussion groups in the lobby, social rooms, conference rooms, or auditorium. In 1935, as coeducation became a reality at Gettysburg, the Y became known as the Student Christian Association and more completely adapted its activities to meet the needs of both men and women.

The transfer of the property of the Academy to College purposes in 1935 included OSOGA Lodge, built overlooking Laurel Lake on Pennsylvania forest land near Pine Grove Furnace. Named for the Old Spirit of Gettysburg Academy, it became known as the College Cabin and offered opportunities to the Y and other campus groups for outdoor recreation and overnight retreats.

A small one-story brick building located on the corner of Washington and Stevens Streets joined the campus scene in September 1939. As the new bookstore (later the Classics Building), it became the student hangout on campus. The *Gettysburgian* described the setting: "Throughout the day members of the campus sit around the six tables sipping coke or relaxing in comfortable green leather window seats, listening to the latest jive numbers played on the electric Wurlitzer to the tune of 'a nickel apiece.'"

Dancing to the strains of a favorite orchestra provided by a victrola had become

a popular leisure time activity for students during the 1920s and 1930s. The music of big-name bands with their tantalizing slow, smooth rhythms, touched by the blues, became a fascination through listening to the radio in the thirties. With considerable enthusiasm, and sometimes marked financial strain of treasuries of campus organizations, these bands were brought to Gettysburg for the big weekends. Gettysburgians and their dates moved on the dance floor of Eddie Plank Gym to the throbbing notes of saxophone, trumpet, and trombone, syncopation led by Casa Loma, Sammy Kaye, Al Katz, or Clyde McCoy. Guest orchestras made their appearance on campus for the Junior Prom and the Frosh-Soph Hop, as well as the Military Ball, an annual event since 1921, and the Ivy Ball, begun as a tradition in 1933. By 1939 it became customary to choose a coed from the student body to reign as a queen over these gala occasions, and her formal presentation was one of the highlights of a memorable evening.

“WHENEVER THY LOYAL ONES GATHER”

Since the first proms at Gettysburg, fraternities set up alcoves known as booths along the side of the dance floor by providing their own furniture and lamps. In these comfortable spots the brothers entertained their dates during intermission or conversed as they “sat out” a dance number. Eventually the Greeks held their own Pan-Hellenic Dance each spring. In 1923 the fraternities scheduled the first migratory dance, thus beginning the custom of moving from one fraternity house to another as couples danced away the evening. The Inter-Fraternity Dance, sponsored initially in 1930 by the ten national fraternities on campus, took the place of the annual migratory and became the highlight of the fall season.

During the twenties fraternities had gained increasing popularity, and throughout the thirties the Greeks’ membership included about two-thirds of the male student body. There were those who felt that fraternities dominated the social life and that fraternity politics played a considerable role in campus elections.

In 1924, after a long struggle for existence, the literary societies decided to close their halls because of waning interest in their programs and the competition offered by fraternities and other extracurricular activities. Fraternity life with its emphasis on brotherhood offered close friendships and a sense of belonging. Membership became even more appealing by the mid-twenties after chapters were permitted to operate fraternity houses that provided room and board. An upsurge of clubs, formed during the twenties, enabled Gettysburg students to pursue areas related to classroom concerns through membership in such groups as the Chemical Society, Scabbard and Blade, Ministerial Association, Engineering Society, Historical Society, Pre-Legal Union, Kappa Phi Kappa—the education honorary, Beta Beta Beta—the biology honorary, the Blue Crocodiles—the journalism honorary.

Although fraternity rivalries existed, there was a genuine spirit of goodwill and friendliness among the Greeks. Much discussion ensued as to the most desirable method of rushing, and during the twenties and thirties preferences shifted back and forth between closed rushing with its definite rules and the more popular “lead pipe” rushing, a completely open system, with no restrictions. In talking with alumni, fraternity men heard stories of the days when brothers took pledge buttons with them as they rode the train to meet incoming freshmen at Harrisburg and brought these boys back as pledges before they ever arrived on the campus of Pennsylvania College. As the thirties drew to a close, repeated attempts had been made by the administration to

eliminate the rough-tough aspect of fraternity hazing, especially the discipline meted out by brothers to pledges by the use of wooden paddles and the rigors of the traditional Battlefield trip, an all-night ordeal for each freshman, left to his own resources to carry out some impossible mission as a rite of passage during Hell Week.

“The days of casual giving and taking of fraternity jewelry, according to the consensus of co-ed opinion, are gone—gone with the days of ‘Joe College’ with his raccoon coat and his collegiate, boisterous attitude,” wrote a student in a 1938 issue of the *Gettysburgian*. With the disappearance of “Joe College,” during the years of the Great Depression and the subsequent national recovery, came a new seriousness of purpose and a greater awareness of responsibility to the world beyond the campus. Although the days of delightful pranks seemed to have passed forever from the college scene, there were times when the pressures of the academic year were released by dragging an old automobile up the front steps of Glatfelter in order to block access to classrooms or assembling a Model T in the lobby within.

The constraints imposed by required morning chapel offered the most productive arena for mass mischief, and distractions could be expected by those duty-bound to insure the continuance of the services. Popular disruptive tactics included removing the hymn books, painting the seats with molasses, sprinkling sneezing powder, setting alarm clocks to go off at intervals, showering feathers upon the audience, releasing pigeons into the air, and jamming skunks behind the radiators. Sometimes Monday morning services were interrupted by the stamping of feet and shouts of “Holiday! Holiday!” in demand of a day off to celebrate a victory on the football field.

A census taken in 1936 showed a variety of religious denominations represented in a student body of 624 with a predominance of 343 Lutherans. Students commenting in 1935 on the attitude of their classmates noted a growing indifference to religion. Religious emphasis centered chiefly around the activities of the Student Christian Association under the direction of the general secretary. Appointed to this post in 1935, in addition to his duties as instructor in philosophy and orientation, the Reverend Donald R. Heiges '31 worked with vigor to develop a program to enhance the religious life on campus. In 1936 Professor Heiges and his wife moved to the former Sigma Chi Lodge, known as Glatfelter Lodge. Centered in the midst of campus activity, he extended warm concern and interest in the total life of students. His efforts resulted in the establishment of the Chaplaincy in 1943, a position which later became a full-time responsibility.

An announcement in the *Gettysburgian* urged men and women interested in the performance of sacred music to attend a meeting in Brua Chapel on October 16, 1935, to form a College choir. By December the choir received rave reviews; the *Gettysburgian* commented:

A matter of incidental interest is the enthusiasm with which the new A Cappella Choir was received. According to the general opinion of both students and professors, this group shows excellent training for the period during which it has been organized. It is undoubtedly the capability of the director which has effected this progress. The type of music being produced is a recommendation for the talent existing in the school, and the ovation granted the choir by the audience is a compliment to the musical talent of the student body.

Patterned in style and repertoire on the famed St. Olaf Choir, this new musical group drew upon the sensitivity and talent of its director, Parker B. Wagnild. From the beginning the choir members responded with loyalty and dedication to “Wags,”

who became beloved as friend during his forty-one years as director. Churches in neighboring communities began inviting the choir to sing. In 1937 the group made its first concert tour to churches in five nearby cities and appeared in gowns of royal blue and white, provided through funds raised by the Woman's League of Gettysburg College.

As the decade drew to a close, the pages of the *Gettysburgian* carried an increasing number of editorials and feature articles voicing student concern with America's possible involvement in war. In the autumn of 1938 many students had gathered in Weidensall Hall for a brief meditation concerning the European crisis. A year later the *Gettysburgian* staff took one of its customary polls in chapel. In response to the major issue, "Should America stay out of war at all costs?" the student body responded with an overwhelming 80% in the affirmative. To the question "Would you refuse to bear arms?" 75% replied in the negative. The questions gained increasing relevance as Americans listened in shocked silence on Sunday, December 7, 1941, to the radio announcement that the Japanese had attacked Pearl Harbor. On December 11 the bold headlines of the *Gettysburgian* declared: "Hanson Pledges Gettysburg to Defense. President Promises College Will Serve When Nation Calls." In urging students to refrain from enlisting immediately, President Henry W.A. Hanson commented: "When the government has formulated its defense program, Gettysburg College will be found in the front ranks of those institutions rendering devoted service to our country. Until that time, it is my conviction that we can render our greatest service by maintaining calm and courage within ourselves."

Chapters For a New Generation, 1942-1982

“It would be difficult to imagine student conditions as being more unfavorable than those confronting the campus during the present semester,” reported President Henry W.A. Hanson to the Board of Trustees at their meeting on December 1, 1942. He explained:

It is to be remembered that there are only sixteen young men on our campus who are not in the draft age. With newspapers and radios constantly pounding away at war news, with the young men standing nervously and eagerly listening to every news item, we can well imagine the confused atmosphere within which the classroom work of the semester is being done. . . .

President Hanson’s remarks referred to the recent lowering of the draft age to eighteen. As a result many male students enlisted in the reserves during December 1942. They were called to active duty as early as January, although President Hanson felt assured that their draft status would be frozen until the end of the academic year.

On February 11 large headlines of the *Gettysburgian* proclaimed: “Army Calls 81 Today; 28 Monday.” Breakfast at 5:00 a.m. was served in Weidensall Hall by the coeds for reserves who were on their way to Fort Meade, Maryland. Those who remained behind were reminded by the empty seats in chapel of the increasing numbers of their classmates leaving for active duty.

Soon the College picked up a new mood and tempo, for on the morning of March 3, 1943, 280 cadets of the 55th College Training Detachment, Army Aircrew, marched onto campus to begin their academic instruction while obtaining flight training at Boulevard Airport along the Mummasburg Road. In April additional men arrived, bringing the total to about 550. Under contract with the U.S. Government, Gettysburg College provided facilities for these young men through June 1944. To accommodate them, double decker beds were purchased for Old Dorm and McKnight, and women students were moved from Huber Hall into fraternity houses that had become vacant as brothers left for the service. The women chose to be grouped according to their sororities, and they worked together to clean, paint, and furnish the houses to their liking. Those who still lacked living quarters were given rooms in the James Gettys Hotel because Stevens Hall and Aughinbaugh, a College residence for women on Springs Avenue, were filled to capacity. A new cafeteria was installed in Huber; dining room, parlor, and lobby were converted into a mess hall serviced by coed waitresses for the military training detachment. Guards were posted at appropriate locations, and the campus resounded with the rhythm of precision drilling and the hearty singing of the corps.

Social activities during the war years were tinged with patriotism. The Class of

1943 planned the Junior Prom on a national defense theme and began the custom of prohibiting corsages, requiring instead that money be used to purchase defense stamps at the dance. Couples entering Eddie Plank Gym, decorated in red, white, and blue, found that a parachute suspended from the ceiling contained a winning number that entitled the lucky escort to \$5 in defense stamps. Couples were eligible for the “jitterbond” contest and could also compete in jitterbugging to win a large American flag. In 1943 “Victory” became the slogan for the last Pan-Hellenic Dance sponsored by the fraternities during the duration. Informal victrola dances became increasingly popular on weekends as student cars were banned from campus in 1942 because of gasoline rationing.

Students served as air raid wardens on campus and voted for their favorite bomb shelter companion. There were unforgettable occasions like the blackout on the night of the Military Ball and the day comprehensive exams were cancelled for the duration—December 1942. To maintain contact and to cheer the boys far from home, students who remained enrolled corresponded with servicemen as part of the “Keep ‘Em Smiling” campaign to insure former students a letter at least every two weeks. Students lent their energies to efforts on the homefront by knitting sweaters, scarves, and socks, rolling bandages, donating books to the USO, and collecting scrap.

During the winter of 1943 the *Gettysburgian* noted that the girls in the W.D. provided the most unique contribution:

A few weeks ago several of the girls conceived the brilliant idea of contributing to the nation's war effort by having the unnecessary parts of their beds sawed off and adding the metal to the scrap drive.

In both dorms the girls went to work with a will and soon many of the high beds were converted into low modernized couches. Piled shoulder high with brightly colored pillows and numerous stuffed pandas, dogs, cats and monkeys, the beds are a credit to the typical college room.

By shortening the legs of the bed, removing the head piece, and using the foot piece as the head of the bed, the coeds have achieved an effect of modernization.

The enrollment of men dropped from 497 in 1943 to 100 in 1944. During 1944 and 1945 Gettysburg College experienced the first time in its history when women students on campus exceeded the number of men. As women assumed more prominent roles in campus organizations, they became more fully integrated in the student body, and the term Women's Division became increasingly less appropriate. Wartime economy and the decrease in total enrollment from 668 in 1943 to 289 in 1944 curtailed College activities and temporarily halted student publications.

The students on campus during the war years experienced a modified social life which often included going with a date to the movies, stopping at Faber's or the drug store for a coke or a soda, or getting together for a game of bridge. Wartime brought with it a new informality in both social events and student attire. Loafers, saddle shoes, bobby socks, and blue jeans became increasingly popular with the college set. Shortages of fabric resulted in styles with straight simple lines and a new emphasis on sportswear.

The enactment of the G.I. Bill of Rights in 1944 brought abrupt and overwhelming change to Gettysburg College that would alter its size and the intimacy of its campus. As early as November 1944 returning veterans, taking advantage of federal funds, applied for admission; in order to accommodate them the College arranged for six periods of entrance during the year. September 1946 arrived with enrollment figures

reaching 1,186. The opening of classes was delayed until October 4 while the administration awaited the completion of the housing project that would provide for the overflow of men students. Four army mess halls known as the Barracks were modified to serve as one-story dormitories located on the site of the present College Union. Three additional units situated on the site of Apple Hall were converted into apartments for married G.I.'s and their families. Delays in construction forced the College to house 175 freshman men in Eddie Plank Gym from October to December 1946. One of the students commented on this arrangement in the *Gettysburgian*:

One's first impression on entering may be that it is a haberdashery or the men's department of some large store. This novel, but definitely inconvenient, effect is gained by the large array of G.I. cots which have 'T' shaped clothes racks at either end. . . .

Imagine if you can, having six different radios tuned in to six different programs at the same time. It may take quite an imagination to grasp this; however it takes an equally strong constitution to put up with it. . . .

Perhaps the greatest evil . . . is the lack of study space and atmosphere. Since the only facilities for study are a long table extending the length of the gym floor between the two triple rows of bunks, and a few chairs and since there is definitely no quiet, it may be clearly seen that living under those conditions is a handicap to the student.

The veteran at Gettysburg College lent to the classroom a new maturity and a questioning point of view. Often he demanded that education be practical and that his introduction to college life be free from customs and regulations that his experience made him feel he had outgrown.

MAY I HAVE THIS DANCE?

As College activities were gradually reinvigorated in the return to peace, Weidensall Hall remained the center of student functions and leisure-time pursuits. The College community was startled on the morning of November 23, 1946, by a fire that gutted this building. A structure that had served as an Army Air Force officers' club was procured and reassembled on the site of the present McCreary Life Sciences Building to serve as a temporary recreation center. Weidensall reopened in 1948; in the process of renovation two wings were added to provide more space for student activities.

Over seven hundred students danced to the smooth, slow rhythms of the TKE combo or jitterbugged to the latest popular hits from the jukebox as "The Thing" took shape in Weidensall on the night of January 11, 1951. "The Thing" was a smashing success, and it was sponsored by the Greeks as a way of enlivening Friday nights. It lent to the auditorium in Weidensall an atmosphere that included candlelight and small round tables for conversation over sandwiches and soft drinks. The *Gettysburgian* reminded the campus community of the real intention behind these weekly happenings: "What most students don't realize is the ultimate goal sought by the committee. That goal is a permanent campus hangout or Student Union which will be open every afternoon and evening throughout the week—a place where students can drop in for a snack, a few dances, or a chat with their friends." Enthusiasm for "The Thing" and the repeated requests by students for a place of their own encouraged the administration to install a snack bar on the ground floor of Weidensall in 1953. It became known as the "Bullet Hole" and remained open in the evenings for refreshments and informal dancing.

Social life on campus revolved largely around the fraternities and their functions.

After the brotherhoods on campus resumed active status following the war, the men directed their energies toward planning service projects, house parties, and open-house gatherings. The activities of the fraternities at Gettysburg were coordinated through the efforts of an outstanding interfraternity council that received several awards of recognition in the 1950s from the National Interfraternity Conference as ranking first among the IFC's in the nation's small colleges. In 1949 the chapters at Gettysburg entered the first campus-wide competition for outside Christmas decorations; this contest became an annual event in which each house vied with the other in originality of theme and elaborateness of design. The special magic of Christmas houseparties filled a weekend that included a formal dance in gala celebration of the season, the traditional concert of the College Choir, a basketball game, and Sunday dinner at the house. Fraternity men and their dates looked forward to the formal dance and the off-campus picnic that made spring houseparty weekend special. A brother who happened to become "pinned" to his girl could anticipate being thrown into the Tiber as the customary initiation to his new status.

The old grads who returned to Gettysburg for Homecoming found that college boys attired in pajamas no longer jammed the streets of town the night before the football game. Instead a parade of floats honored a Homecoming queen and rallied spirit for a victory on the field. Fraternities and other organizations competed for prizes for the most outstanding floats, and pledges often stood guard the night before the parade to protect the entry of their brotherhood from rivals.

RAISE HIGH THE ROOF BEAMS

With the increase in enrollment during the postwar years, new services and facilities were implemented to more fully accommodate a larger student body. In 1949 an editorial in the *Gettysburgian* stressed the need for a directory of students to be filed in an accessible place. As a result, a student directory appeared in a loose-leaf notebook kept in the lobby of Weidensall Hall. Later the Student Senate assumed the responsibility of issuing a directory each year. Communication on campus had received a new dimension in 1948 with the opening of the student radio station, WWGC, founded by Leslie Hartman '50, the first station manager. Located on the third floor of the south wing of Breidenbaugh Hall, WWGC broadcast classical and popular music, sports, and news with equipment largely constructed by students. Earlier radio broadcasting on campus had been begun in Glatfelter Hall in 1924 as experimental work conducted by physics students operating with an amateur radio license.

On September 18, 1953, Gettysburgians attended the first worship service in Christ Chapel. Its 140-foot spire reaching skyward reminded the campus community that a dream had finally become a reality, for the marble cornerstone shipped from King Solomon's quarries had remained in the library entrance for more than a decade before construction began. A genuine friend to students and an understanding counselor, Pastor Edwerth Korte '32, known on campus as "P.K.," began living in the White House with his family in 1952 and served as the first full-time chaplain.

Increased responsibility for student concerns had become the chief role of the Campus Senate, organized in 1942 to supersede the Men's Student Council. Known as the Student Senate by 1953, this revitalized group channeled its efforts and energies toward the adoption of an honor system at Gettysburg College. Earlier attempts had been made by the student body in 1893 and 1916, and considerable

discussion ensued during the 1920s, but it had been difficult to maintain an honor system for an extended period of time. The long process of planning and persuasion by the Student Senate that took place amidst the climate of debate on campus culminated in a vote by the student body. The *Gettysburgian* commented: "We believe that in this birth of a plan for an honor system on our campus, we are reaching toward something vitally important—something so basically important that no Gettysburg student can allow it to become lost among the smaller concerns of his life." On the morning of April 23, 1955, the lobby of Glatfelter Hall was jammed with students casting their ballots. Reversing the negative decision that had resulted from an earlier poll, the votes tallied in favor of an honor system, and the senators were faced with the difficulties of its implementation in the fall of 1957.

To achieve greater effectiveness in working with students in all aspects of their life on campus, the Office of Dean of Students was established by the College in 1957 through the initiative of President Willard S. Paul. The new dean, John W. Shainline, was also responsible for coordinating the responsibilities of the student personnel staff. Counseling services, begun to meet the needs of veterans, were extended to all students in 1949 to offer personal, educational, and vocational guidance. In addition to improving student services, President Paul implemented an expanded program for residential life. Plans were made for the construction of new dormitories, a dining hall, and a new infirmary. The completion of Hanson Hall in 1950 and Musselman and Patrick in 1958 allowed an increase in the number of women enrolled. The building of Stine in 1955 and Rice and Apple in 1959 enabled more men to live on campus and permitted the removal of the Barracks still used as student housing. Increased enrollment shifted the size of the student body from 1,180 in 1954 to 1,564 in 1959.

"Meet you at the SUB!" became a familiar phrase among friends after the opening of the Student Union Building in December 1959. As the center for recreational activities, the SUB housed WWGC, the bookstore, a U.S. post office, the "Bullet Hole," a barber shop, a ballroom, bowling alleys, a swimming pool, a game room, and lounges. The first director of the Student Union, Harold O. Closson, Jr., formed the SUB Board composed of student representatives to coordinate activities and programs to enrich the social life at the "Burg."

The "Fabulous Fifties" had brought with them the popularity of all-campus activities that became annual events. Most memorable were the Water Show, Sigma Chi Derby Day, the Pan Hel/IFC Sing, the Talent Revue in the Majestic Theatre, the WUS (World University Service) Bazaar and Auction, the Powder Puff Bowl Game, and REW (Religious Emphasis Week). The fads of the fifties included Bermuda shorts and knee socks, white bucks and trench coats, the sack dress and the sheath. The fun of the fifties contained lighthearted revelry in water fights and panty raids, cramming with one's friends to fill a phone booth or a car, twirling a hula-hoop, and playing a new Ivy League game known as frisbee.

In 1955 a student writing for the *Gettysburgian* commented: "This campus is hit by a strange disease that bears the name of apathy. It is not that things do not happen here, so that people do not know about them; it is rather that they do not care. . . ." "Maybe we are actually a silent generation," reflected another Gettysburg student two years later. "Are we silent because we're afraid to speak? Or is it simply because we have nothing to say?" By 1960 a student describing an attitude on campus wrote: "If we can distinguish one common characteristic among Gettysburg students, it is

that of dissatisfaction. We are dissatisfied with the chapel system, the grading system, the profs, the courses, the intellectual atmosphere, college policy, the college itself, and ourselves.”

CONFRONTATION AND COMMITMENT

As the sixties emerged, students at Gettysburg College and colleges throughout the nation began voicing concern about social issues. Their vocabulary took on frequent references to words like “commitment” and “confrontation” in their need to question “The Establishment.” Their sense of rebellion against a materialistic society was reflected in the frayed and faded blue jeans worn by both sexes, long hair for men, and the extremes of maxi or mini skirts for women. The ballads of their folksingers and the new rhythms of their rock groups protested the inequality of African Americans and the injustice of the war in Vietnam. The words of their caring blazoned on buttons, bumper stickers, and posters and were chanted by young people gathered in numbers at sit-ins, love-ins, peace marches, and civil rights demonstrations.

Involvement brought with it demands by college students for their rights and the opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the process of their own education. In his inaugural address on April 28, 1962, President C. Arnold Hanson shared this viewpoint: “Freedom and responsibility. . . . I can find no clearer words to bring into sharp focus the perspective from which I view this college than these.” These words had also formed part of the theme of his opening address to the student body on September 14, 1961, as he reminded them that “only by being responsible does one learn the process of freedom.” Prior to the inauguration of the new president, the *Gettysburgian* commented: “There has been a change, and a welcome one, in the atmosphere of Gettysburg College this year. We see signs of it in a more constructively critical outlook toward ourselves and our college, in a lowering of the barrier between the administration and the student body, in a shift of emphasis from the extra-curricular to the curricular from activities to academics.”

To promote communication among faculty, administration, and students, President Hanson held press conferences in cooperation with the Dean of Students and the Student Senate. Attended by campus leaders, these sessions provided opportunity for response to questions and the expression of student opinion. Declaring 1961-62 as the Year of Student Awareness, the Student Senate sponsored a one-day seminar to study various aspects of college life and to discuss student reactions in relationship to the future program of the College. Growing concerns among students included the homogeneity of the student body, the low percentage of African American and foreign students enrolled, the drinking policy, the future of fraternities and sororities, the enforcement of the honor system, regulations limiting off-campus room and board for women, the lack of community. Although the Senate seriously considered the question of membership for Gettysburg College in the National Student Association (NSA) as a means of identifying with the student movement, this idea did not receive enough support among the student body.

While student discontent and frustration mounted nationwide by the mid-sixties, the Gettysburg College campus remained relatively quiet. In 1966 President Hanson introduced Liaison, a series of small dinners to encourage the discussion of current campus problems. “Liaison will not only allow communication to bridge the gap between students, faculty and administration,” commented the *Gettysburgian*, “but,

more importantly, permit an informal, reasonable ground for students to challenge college policy and, of course, vice versa. Obviously, every student realizes the radical potential involved in being able to challenge on a reasonable basis. Communication and challenge lead to influence.” Liaison became the catalyst for open forums in which the student body confronted the President concerning administrative decisions and viewpoints.

The distribution of a memorandum from the Office of the Dean of Students in the spring of 1967 touched off feelings of protest in response to the decision that the men’s dormitories must be filled to capacity before permission would be granted for rooming off-campus. Recording the reaction in the *Gettysburgian*, a student wrote:

We can no longer just suggest—we must show an organized front, prepared to act in a united effort. . . . There was a gala water fight in the quad, and numerous food fights in the cafeteria. . . . Whether or not the student protest is valid in this case, it has served to raise the students to the point where they have meetings and talk seriously of organizing student rallies. Great! Some progress just might be accomplished. Student frustration may become vocal.

Students continued to challenge the administration regarding policies and decisions affecting their life at Gettysburg. When discontent surfaced, student opinion sought greater verbal expression in discussion groups, in the pages of student publications, and in bull sessions in dorm rooms.

During the late sixties and early seventies student attitudes toward existing campus traditions brought about a gradual discontinuance of activities that former generations of Gettysburgians had enthusiastically supported as part of their college experience. Enforcement of freshman customs waned even though a revised program was issued in 1967 by the Booster Club, renamed G.A.P.E., Gettysburg Association for Promoting Enthusiasm. An editorial written in 1968 expressed the feeling that times had changed:

While the Gettysburgian believes that it is important for freshmen to learn certain facts about the college and to develop a sense of loyalty toward the institution; a more mature method should be used.

It seems to us that the “RAH RAH” atmosphere on college campuses has declined and that students have taken a somewhat more passive attitude toward college spirit.

Shifts in attitudes, increased pressures of the academic year, and the necessary investments of time and funds combined to bring about the gradual fading of proms and balls, the Homecoming parade, the selection of campus queens, and the Christmas decoration contest.

DO YOUR THING!

The new generation of Gettysburgians enjoyed a new informality staged in the spirit of “doing your thing.” Together they grouped for folksong fests or blanket concerts in the SUB to listen to the beat of groups like “The Happenings,” “The Turtles,” “Spirit,” “The Vanilla Fudge,” or Gettysburg’s own outstanding Brandenburg Jazz Ensemble. The rapid changes and unrest of the sixties increased the popularity of nostalgia “trips.” Capturing this interest, the SUB Board sponsored “Old Times Nights” in the Bullet Hole to show flicks starring Charlie Chaplin, Fatty Arbuckle, Gloria Swanson, and W.C. Fields. Women students in “Roaring Twenties” costumes served coffee for five cents and ice cream to students at candle-lit tables. From these events “The Sandbox” was constructed as an evening of live entertainment

with a coffeehouse atmosphere. Gettysburg's first "happening" occurred as a Sandbox known as "Freak Out!" in October 1966. The Bullet Hole and the ballroom, transformed by revolving lights, shook with the rhythm of "The Rumors" and the swing of the Holy Lady of Glatfelter Rhythm and Blues Band. The happening also presented folksingers, a jug band, and baton twirlers, and the audience "freaked out" dancing while silhouetting themselves on a giant movie screen.

The appeal of the coffeehouse setting to college students throughout the country had led to the opening of the In during the winter of 1965. Located in the basement of Eddie Plank Gym, it was "the in place" to be on Friday and Saturday nights. Voices mingled with the strum of guitars, and the aroma of coffee pervaded the room filled with tables covered with red and white checkered cloths and lit by candles that dripped on the wine bottles serving as their holders. The small platform and the high stools accommodated performers from the Coffee House Circuit and student and faculty talent in the sharing of folk music, poetry, jazz, the blues, rock, and dramatic readings. Under the management of the Chapel Council, the In retained its identity until 1976, when its operation was taken over by the College Union Board and it acquired a nautical decor and a new name—"The Gangplank."

The In had been part of the Chapel Council's growing program of outreach. One of the most active groups on campus, the Council had officially merged with the Student Christian Association in 1965 and received its impetus from Chaplain John Vannorsdall. Known to students as "J.V.," John Vannorsdall came to Gettysburg in 1962 and brought to his nine years of service eloquence and an intellectual excitement that were reflected in channeling the energies and concerns of students into constructive action. "The Chapel Council's growing program has brought it into the vanguard of leadership of campus activities," declared a student writing for the *Gettysburgian* in 1967. "Each year the Chapel Council learns new ways to serve the campus, and more and more students are finding participation in the various chapel programs to be one of the most rewarding and exciting parts of their college experience." Together the members published a journal of ideas known as *The Junto* and planned for student involvement in the Fall Lecture Series, the Knoxville Exchange that brought African American students to visit the campus, the Love and Marriage Seminar, the College and Town Tutorial Program, the summer program for the Community Action Agency, the New York City field trip, and the services held in Christ Chapel.

A rented duplex on Stevens Street was opened in 1968 as the Chapel House, and it became the setting for discussion groups that gained a new dimension by being able to utilize facilities for meals and overnights. By 1971 the College acquired its own Conference House on the Mummasburg Road. These homes provided the base for COR, a Community of Risk. In this effective program groups of ten students met for weekly overnights with a resource person to explore the Christian way of being human and allowed themselves to take the risk of experiencing new dimensions in living and thinking.

The loyalty and commitment of generations of Gettysburgians to singing in the College Choir under the direction of Parker B. Wagnild brought increased achievement and recognition to this group's role as ambassadors of song. Outstanding reviews in newspapers from major cities where the choir performed praised their precision of pitch, the depth of their intonation and resonance, their excellent diction, and the exceptional blending of their voices. Among outstanding engagements were an appearance at the Lutheran World Federation in Helsinki, Finland in 1963, a

forty-seven day world tour in the summer of 1967, and a performance at the White House during a reception given on December 21, 1969, by President Richard Nixon for his cabinet members and their wives. The choir toured Europe in 1972 and climaxed their trip with an appearance in St. Mark's Basilica in Venice.

The combined enjoyment of singing, acting, and dancing led to the formation in 1961 of an enthusiastic group known as the Premiere Players. Performing through 1964, they devoted their energies to the production of musical comedies such as *South Pacific*, *Can Can*, and *Kismet*.

With the appointment of Emile O. Schmidt in 1962 as the Director of Theatre Arts, productions at Gettysburg College reached a new level of professionalism. Conveying his own enthusiasm and excitement for the theater, Mr. Schmidt began developing a strong program that included three major Owl and Nightingale productions each year, a Laboratory Theatre consisting of student-directed one-act plays, and a series of short theater pieces under the aegis, Otherstage. Owl and Nightingale opened its first season under Mr. Schmidt's direction with *Darkness at Noon*. As the group attracted new talent and gained experience in working together, theater at Gettysburg brought to the campus outstanding performances such as *The Rivals*, *Caesar and Cleopatra*, *Twelfth Night* in Western style, *Death of a Salesman*, *Pippin*, and *The Trial*, an experimental approach to Kafka. Productions continue to include a wide variety of plays exposing students to all types of drama, ranging from Elizabethan tragedy and 18th-century comedy of manners to contemporary drama and avant-garde works.

As students on campus began to identify more closely with social and political issues during the sixties, an increasing number of feature articles and editorials reflecting concern appeared in the *Gettysburgian*. Opinions and sometimes outrage were focused on the Kennedy assassinations, the race riots in the nation's cities, the death of Martin Luther King, policies of the Great Society, the moon walk, the Vietnam War. Those students who became actively involved participated in civil rights demonstrations in Washington, D.C., or marched along the streets to the nation's Capitol in the cause of peace.

In 1966 a group of Gettysburgians formed the Ad Hoc Committee of Students to End the War in Vietnam. One of the members explained the feeling of individual commitment toward a shared goal: "All these students do not necessarily hold the same position concerning the war. The views of the members range from complete pacifism to opposition to only bombing and lack of negotiation. Some members are concerned about the growing insensitivity toward war in general. Others protest the political indications of American involvement." The first anti-war demonstration on the campus was an all-day protest directed at a representative of the Dow Chemical Corporation, producer of napalm, during job recruitment interviews held in March 1968. The concerted efforts of the committee were directed toward the presentation of an annual Peace Week and an anti-war moratorium. These events included the erection of peace sculptures on campus, faculty panel discussions, films, anti-war drama, all-night vigils in the chapel, and silent marches to the Peace Light.

Dissenters from the new left on campus formed a minority within the spectrum of student opinion. This segment of the student body let its viewpoints be known through the publication of several short-lived underground magazines. Among these mimeographed protest sheets, SEED, considered by its editors as a source for growth, contained off-beat short stories, poems, and reflections. *The Acid Express* addressed all "heads" and sought to inform anyone who wanted to explore by

experiencing acid, grass, speed, or smack. Making its appearance in September 1968, *Eatsit* claimed to adopt no specific editorial position but stirred up considerable controversy on campus among those who found its articles and cartoons vulgar and offensive and the attacks on the administration bordering on libel. A number of concerned student activists responded by issuing "The Situation," which denounced the methods of change advocated by *Eatsit*. These students committed themselves to effecting change through open dialogue and debate. At a meeting attended by more than one hundred students, the Student Senate unanimously endorsed their statement. Declaring itself the original Gettysburg free press, uncensored, *Common Sense* began publication in 1970; its editors described it as "often filled with revolutionary TRASH" and felt that they had "created a vehicle through which individuals can express themselves without fear of repression."

Dissatisfied with certain aspects of life at Gettysburg, a small number of students banded together in 1967 to form Group X in an effort to improve the scene for independents on campus. In a position paper written in 1969, Group X defined itself as "an organization embodying men and women on campus who are disturbed by the lack of social and intellectual excitement at Gettysburg." "We are not interested in playing at revolution," the members stated, "but we are interested in reactivating the college at its heart, in bringing real change to the community." This spirit for the initiation of change prompted Group X to hold the first open meeting to air concerns about Gettysburg College. Known as a "Bitch-In," the session was attended by both students and faculty in the In on March 14, 1969.

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

By the late sixties students at Gettysburg voiced strong opinions for the option of having more responsibility in decisions concerning the governance of their life on campus. In 1967 the Student Senate began to hold open meetings with the trustees to promote better understanding of positions on issues. During these opportunities for confrontation, concerns that surfaced included lack of power of the Student Conduct Board, a drinking policy that prohibited alcohol at campus functions, restrictions on hours and off-campus room and board for women. In 1968 students were given representation with voting privileges on a faculty committee for the first time; this group, known as the Student Affairs Committee, was reorganized as the Student Forum and in 1969 as the Residential Life Commission to include representation among faculty, administration, and students. During the following academic year student representatives became an integral part of the General Education Committee, the Academic Policy and Program Committee, and the January Term Committee.

A small group of students had walked into the faculty meeting on December 5, 1968, and asked to address the group. Denied an audience, they distributed a statement to the faculty at the time of adjournment which included their request:

We, like you, affirm the value of this institution. Again, like you, we are willing to go beyond mere verbal affirmation. We have indeed already done so.

Our presence here today indicates a strong desire to do more. The faculty makes many of the significant decisions which govern our education at Gettysburg . . . the very quality of the educational experience itself. . . .

Currently there is no formalized regular communication between the whole faculty and interested students. In our opinion an information gap exists. The situation

indicates the appropriateness and need for change. . . . The most intelligent answer to this problem is regular attendance of interested students at faculty meetings. . . .

We are asking for the chance to take part intelligently in the planning of our education. . . .

In January 1969 by vote of the faculty these monthly meetings were opened to student representatives, and copies of the minutes were made available to the student body.

The late sixties allowed for greater student involvement and freedom in structuring an academic course of study. Underground courses held as informal non-credit seminars were offered during 1967-68. That same year a limited pass-fail option was initiated to encourage students to explore subjects outside their majors. A poll conducted among the student body in February 1968 indicated preference for a 4-1-4 program from among options under faculty review. Students expressed enthusiasm for the opportunity to explore one subject in depth during a January term that would also allow an infinite range of possibilities for individual study and incorporate experiences beyond the campus.

As 4-1-4 gained increased support, the curriculum controversy was brought to a close by a faculty vote of approval with the understanding that the new program would be implemented in 1969-70. Included in the planning, a Student January Term Committee worked in cooperation with a faculty committee in visiting departments to discuss ideas for courses.

As the sixties drew to a close, students who felt strongly about the need for increased responsibility accompanied by greater freedom united in protest on March 15, 1969, following a meeting of the Board of Trustees at which the decision was made to extend unlimited hours to senior women rather than to all upperclass women. Gatherings of students for discussion were held throughout the day and culminated in an all-night grievance session in the SUB. Known as the Movement, this thrust for involvement centered around concern for establishing closer communication among students, faculty, administration, and trustees. Students drafted a proposal including the idea of holding a moratorium, and classes were cancelled on April 15 and 16 so that these four groups could meet together for the interchange of ideas.

“We seek, in general, the right to determine, to a much greater degree, our personal and institutional destinies. . . .” commented a leader of the Movement. “We believe . . . that we have shown by our active and constructive pursuit of a goal, a new and increased desire to take upon ourselves a much greater burden of responsibility.” Another student involved in the Moratorium remarked,

If this is a type of revolution, then it is a revolution against apathy. If the Moratorium fails, and it will only fail through lack of participation, then Gettysburg College will remain in this curiously motionless state for years to come. Any justification for complaints about the atmosphere generated by the College will be gone, and we will have only ourselves to blame.

Careful planning, effective organization, and hard work on the part of student leaders resulted in two days of all-campus meetings and small group discussions that raised issues, tackled problems, and re-evaluated goals related to Gettysburg College and its direction for the future. With a feeling of community, strengthened by the sharing of common concerns, more than 1,300 persons attended the closing session in anticipation of potential change. A student proposal to delegate to a Student Affairs Forum the regulation of matters governing student life was presented at that

meeting and approved by the Board of Trustees in May. A Study and Referral Committee on Moratorium Issues was appointed, and, as a result, changes were made in cafeteria service, women's hours, and the recruitment of African American students. Students were appointed to the long-range planning committee.

A NEW DECADE

In response to issues raised by student discussion and debate, further changes came later: a revision of the drinking policy that allowed alcohol on campus subject to State regulation, 1970; more open visitation in dormitories, 1970; a collateral dormitory in Apple Hall, 1971; a coed residential living experience fostering a sense of community in Patrick Hall, 1977. A concerned student writing in 1975 about residential life at Gettysburg College expressed the opinion of his peers:

Maturity and responsibility which should be achieved are not gained through unnecessary regulation and restriction, but through responsibility and the right to choose for oneself what course of action should be taken. We are not children, but adults, who have the right both legally, and morally to assume the responsibility and burden of regulating our own living environment.

Conscious of the strength of the student voice that the sixties and seventies brought to the shaping of campus life throughout the nation, a committee of faculty and administration issued a working paper on student rights. The Student Senate reacted with a version written in response, and a committee representing faculty, administration, and students drafted an official document approved in 1973 as "Rights and Responsibilities of Gettysburg College Students."

In its role of negotiation for change, the Student Senate frequently experienced periods during its existence when insufficient student participation and apparent apathy decreased the effectiveness of its role. The Senate president commented in September 1969:

The Student Senate this year faces a very difficult but challenging situation in the fact that it lacks student support . . . while at the same time it has been granted much greater responsibility by the administration and the Board of Trustees. This resulted from the student voice expressed in the Moratorium. . . .

Because of the Moratorium, the student body has gained much respect from leaders of the college community who have indicated a desire to take a role of advisors. In hard fact, we have been given a much greater role in determining the future of both the institution and ourselves. . . .

Picking up the spirit of the Moratorium, the Student Senate opened the new decade by sponsoring and planning as the thrust of its annual Awareness Week, Symposium 70, a conference centered on potential student involvement in the concerns of campus, community, and nation. Over one thousand Gettysburg students, more than three hundred student delegates from other colleges, and fifty noted leaders in education, business, government, and religion met together on campus from March 10-13, 1970, for workshops and keynote speeches. Effectively organized, Symposium 70 offered three days of stimulating discussion and activity. Commenting on the aftermath of the conference, a student editor of the *Gettysburgian* wrote:

Now we are faced with the really important question, where do we go from here?

The success of last year's Moratorium lay in the fact that the student body woke up, united, and became a voice to be reckoned with. The frustration of the Moratorium lay in the fact that just as the student body awoke suddenly, they just as quickly went back

to sleep. . . . [W]hen students actively pushed for change, they got it. If the potential of Symposium 70 is to be fully realized, then the spirit that is generated must be carried into the future.

The escalation of the war in Vietnam focused concerns beyond the campus as leaders of the anti-war movement rallied students for participation in an all-day strike held in conjunction with a national moratorium on May 5, 1970. Classes were suspended for two days as students and faculty considered viewpoints on statements and petitions directed toward recent developments in Indochina. Mass meetings in Stine Lake and the Chapel on the day of the strike gathered together those committed to the cause. The names of the war dead were read on the steps of the Chapel. Services commemorated the lives of four students killed during the protest at Kent State University. Those involved formed the long line that moved to the Peace Light and later joined a silent candlelight procession to the National Cemetery.

Although there were other marches, the peace movement gradually lost its impetus. "Why is it that nobody cares?" commented a student in 1971. "Because most students have come to the conclusion that little or nothing can be accomplished by a student peace movement. Many students who were involved feel that it is a waste of time. Many of these people now are directing their energies toward the ecology movement." After President Nixon's announcement that an agreement ending the Vietnam War had been initiated in Paris in January 1973, the *Gettysburgian* observed that "except for a sign extending out of the third floor of Stine Hall proclaiming 'Peace' accompanied by an American flag, there was no visible evidence on the campus that peace really was 'at hand' in Vietnam."

The students of the seventies brought to the campus a commitment to environmental action—the conservation of natural resources, the fight against pollution, and the effective use of energy, food, and land. Gettysburgians commemorated the first national Earth Day on April 22, 1970, with an Environmental Teach-In, a Plant-In, and a campus-wide clean-up. Ecology became the thrust of various groups on campus and the focus of numerous programs. The first special interest living unit at Gettysburg College became known as the Whole Earth House in 1975 and combined residents of East and West Cottages in the mutual goal of exploring areas of ecology, natural foods, and conservation, while developing a sense of community. A revival of objects made from natural materials led to the establishment in 1972 of the Craft Center, located in the basement of Eddie Plank Gym. There students worked in non-credit classes in pottery, batik, macrame, leatherwork, ceramics, silverwork, and candlemaking.

By the mid-seventies interest groups became a trend on campus as a way of pursuing special concerns and personal growth amidst the interchange of ideas with other students. Common interest living units, under student leadership with the help of a faculty advisor, were organized on dormitory floors and in cottages. The Free School, organized and operated by Gettysburg College students from 1970 to 1977, offered opportunities to members of campus or community to pursue the challenge of special interests. Offering unique courses with no formal structure, the Free School provided instruction on topics as varied as guitar, automobile maintenance, and yoga.

Changes within the academic program allowed more freedom for students to pursue subject interests of their choice. By 1970 the concept of the special major was initiated so that a student could choose to design an interdepartmental concentration of courses focused on a particular area of interest. Internships that offered students

an opportunity to explore careers in government, business and industry, and various professions became increasingly in demand. Emphasis on independent study and seminars provided the format for intensive investigation of special topics within the curriculum. Initiated in 1974, the Senior Scholars' Seminar has offered selected seniors a problem-solving approach to issues related to the future of man.

A questioning of values in the mid-seventies led to a concentrated review of the honor system. A campus-wide survey conducted in October 1975 indicated that the majority of the student body favored an honor system; however, the vote taken at a meeting of the faculty indicated a lack of confidence in the operation of the present system. In response, a group of forty-three students formed an *ad hoc* committee to enlist support and to communicate their recommitment. As a result, more than four hundred students signed a publicized statement endorsing the entire honor code, thereby pledging their own integrity and their willingness to report violators. The faculty responded to the student movement by voting unanimously to retain the present honor system.

As more students chose to remain independent, the number of students pledging fraternities and sororities decreased somewhat during the early seventies. Although the Greek system remained strong at Gettysburg College, campus life and leadership in organizations became less dependent upon the influence of the Greeks, and membership in a fraternity or sorority became less vital as a prerequisite for social success.

To create a sense of awareness to African American students on campus and to establish a more favorable climate for their personal adjustment and academic achievement, a group of students formed the Black Student Union in 1972. This organization became a channel of communication to the administration, a link with the African American community in Gettysburg, and a sponsor of an annual Black American Arts Festival.

Committed to ending discrimination against women on campus, the Group for the Re-education of Women (GROW) organized in 1973. The thrust of their efforts has centered on the need for increased enrollment of women, off-campus living and dining privileges, and efforts to promote the hiring of women for faculty and administrative positions.

During the seventies students identifying with national concerns participated in joggathons, walkathons, and dance marathons to raise funds for causes of groups such as CROP, Project Concern, the American Cancer Society, and Adams County Day Care Center. Jogging, running, and playing Frisbee became popular on campus as physical fitness activities and recreational sports.

Postscript: *From a Window on the Campus*

The students who opened the gate in the white picket fence that defined the perimeters of Pennsylvania College to attend the first day of classes on November 7, 1832, would be astonished to know that as the College commemorates the 175th year of its existence, their modern counterparts comprise an enrollment of over 2,600 students who enjoy a campus of over two hundred acres with seventy-four buildings.

Many of the early students came from Pennsylvania and Maryland. Having achieved a national reputation, Gettysburg College also attracts students from all over the United States, including the Trust Territories, as well as from more than sixty countries. Unlike the predominantly Lutheran male student body destined to enter primarily the ministry, medicine, or teaching that characterized the College for generations, students on campus today represent many Christian and non-Christian traditions and constitute an approximately equal number of men and women. They attend classes taught by 190 full-time faculty.

Today's students extend and enhance their academic and social lives through the challenge of choosing from over thirty possible majors, the opportunity to design a special major, and the growth and excitement offered by a wide range of internships, service learning projects, and study abroad programs.

From a window in a study bay at Musselman Library one can delight in the green tracery of leaves in springtime, the glory of color as autumn touches the campus, or the magic of a fresh snowfall. The Gettysburgian who studies there can experience the present confronting the past in a magnificent view of Pennsylvania Hall, the oldest building on campus, which once housed the total life of students. Although debate no longer echoes from the Forum on its portico and the years have lost the sound of heels tapping on the iron steps, keeping time with mandolins in the moonlight, each generation of Gettysburgians inherits the past and brings its own contribution to a heritage begun in 1832. Each student who has entered and become a signer of last name, first name, and middle initial and receiver of bed, desk, chair, and dream has played his or her part in the history of the college we know as Gettysburg.

Anna Jane Moyer
July 10, 2006

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Between 1975 and 1989 Anna Jane Moyer produced a series of essays for the Gettysburg College alumni magazine capturing “moments” on campus and in the town of Gettysburg since 1832. Treating people, places, and notable events over the course of the College’s first 150 years, Moyer’s sketches reached an appreciative audience at the time. But with the Gettysburg College 175th anniversary approaching, it seemed appropriate to make her writing more readily available to alumni, friends of the College, students, and scholars.

The sketches now republished in *To Waken Fond Memory* remind readers that the culture of a liberal arts college is never static, yet that certain elements remain important through the generations—among them a strong sense of community and growing readiness among students to influence the world beyond the Gettysburg campus. The longest of Moyer’s collected pieces, “Mandolins in the Moonlight,” was originally published under a different title, as part of a series of pamphlets marking the College’s sesquicentennial. Like the shorter vignettes featured in this book, “Mandolins in the Moonlight” evokes most charmingly the ways students have interacted with their professors and their peers and in small ways and larger ones, made their mark. Taken together, the essays in *To Waken Fond Memory* will evoke a Gettysburg past that still resonates and informs its present identity.



ANNA JANE MOYER served as a Readers’ Services Librarian at Gettysburg College from 1961 to 1999. During her years of service in Schmucker and Musselman libraries, she became captivated by Gettysburg College history—most especially student life. A graduate of Susquehanna University, Moyer earned a master’s degree from the graduate school of library science at Drexel University. She continues to enjoy writing and presenting programs to college and community groups. The history of Gettysburg College remains one of her enduring interests.