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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the Editor

Introduction

Having served on the editorial board of *The Historical Journal* since my sophomore year, it has been an honor to work as the general editor for this edition, the journal's tenth. Since its inception in 2002, the publication has strived to present the best work from the department's variety of courses and array of dedicated students, and this year is no exception. The editorial board faced a great challenge in narrowing the eighteen papers that were submitted down to the four best that, along with the winner of the Edwin T. Greninger '41 Prize in history, would be published. Many thanks to Rachel Santose '11, Amelia Grabowski '13, Kaitlin Reed '13, and Nathan Lanan '12 for their hard work in selecting papers and working one on one with the authors during the editing process.

Now to the papers themselves, which cover a wide range of topics, span an array of time periods, and focus on a variety of continents. First is Austin Clark's "*100 Spears Worth 100 Pieces*": *The Impact of Ashigaru on Sengoku Jidai*, the winner of the Greninger Prize. Austin examines the military impact the *ashigaru*, or Japanese infantry, had on the Sengoku period (sixteenth century). A shift in importance from mounted samurai archers to these foot soldiers, who were armed with spears or bows, and related changes in discipline, training, and technique, transformed the ways in which battles during the period were fought and ultimately allowed for the unification of Japan.

Cara Elliott's *This House which I have built: The Foundation of the Brattle Street Church in Boston*

and Transformations in Colonial Congregationalism chronicles the foundation of the Brattle Street Church by Thomas Brattle within its historical and religious context. The church's foundation marked the first of the divisions in congregationalism in the late 1600s.

Brendan Quigley examines the role that Gallipoli has played in world history in *Gallipoli: The Spark That Would Ignite an Empire*. From the foundation of the Ottoman Empire in the 1300s through World War I, the peninsula has long been the focus of leaders hoping to control the region.

In his well-argued capstone project *The Master of the Senate and the Presidential Hidden Hand: Eisenhower, Johnson, and Power Dynamics in the 1950s*, Samuel Cooper-Wall investigates the changes that occurred in the relationship between President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, who served as Minority and Majority Leader during Eisenhower's tenure. These two men, on opposite sides of the political spectrum, were originally able to compromise and work somewhat in tandem in order to achieve their goals. After a series of incidents, this cooperation ceased, but the examination of their relationship reveals a great deal about the ways in which these two men behaved as leaders.

Robert Kellert's *The Quiet War: Nazi Agents in America* tells a story that spans two continents. He considers both German and U.S. intelligence organizations during World War II and relates the fascinating story of Operation PASTORIOUS, a German intelligence maneuver within the U.S. that

ultimately failed but had implications on the ways in which the government treats enemies of the state and traitors.

It is my privilege to present the Fall 2011 edition of *The Gettysburg College Historical Journal*!

Elizabeth (Lisa) Ungmach '11