



2020

Front Matter

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Front Matter

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**JOURNAL
OF THE
CIVIL WAR ERA**

Volume 10, Spring 2020

Editors – in-Chief:

Zachary A. Wesley, Cameron T. Sauers

Editors:

Brandon R. Katzung Hokanson, Garrett Kost, Carolyn Hauk, Christopher T. Lough, Brandon R. Neely Jaeger R. Held, Wesley Cline, R.J. Lehal, Marissa Honeycutt, Pierce H. Susco

Advisor:

Dr. Ian A. Isherwood

Cover Image: “Eleanor C. Ransom, Civil War nurse, with Union soldier who is showing her a bugle,” courtesy of the Library of Congress

Interested in getting published in the *Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era*?

If you or anyone you know has written an undergraduate paper in the past five years about the Civil War Era or its lasting memory and meets the following categories and requirements, then please consider visiting our website at <http://cupola.gettysburg.edu/gcjwe/> to enter your work for consideration for next year's publication.

Requirements and Categories for Publication:

Submissions should be typed in 12-point Times New Roman font and submitted as a Word document.

1. Academic Essays: We are interested in original research with extensive use of primary and secondary sources. Possible topics include, but are not limited to, military history, social history, race, reconstruction, memory, reconciliation, politics, the home front, etc. **6,000 words or less.**
2. Book Reviews: Any non-fiction Civil War-related book published in the last two years. Authors should have knowledge of the relevant literature to review. **700 words or less.**
3. Historical Non-fiction Essays: This category is for non-fiction works regarding the Civil War that are not necessarily of an academic nature. Examples of this include essays in public history of the war, study of the re-enactment culture,

current issues in the Civil War field such as the sesquicentennial, etc. Creativity is encouraged in this category as long as it remains a non-fiction piece. **2,000 to 6,000 words.**

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

A Letter from Editors

This year has certainly been filled with twists and turns for the editors of this tenth volume of the Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era. The strains on both authors and editors this year are unlike anything in this journal's history. We would, therefore, like to extend a hearty thanks to all of the hard work of our editors and authors in ensuring that this issue of the journal proceeds to publication. It is no small feat to do so at the best of times, nevermind during a global pandemic. We may take this volume as evidence of the high caliber of young historians at Gettysburg College and beyond. We are pleased to bring you this excellent collection of five academic essays, beginning with Hans Myers "Some Personal Coloring: Examining the Falsehoods of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain at Gettysburg."

Myers challenges the popular narrative of the role of the 20th Maine on July 2, 1863, arguing that mythmaking has muddied history and legend. William Donaldson's "Robert Smalls and the steamship Planter: Turning the Tides for the Union Military in the Civil War," charts the daring escape of Robert Smalls, an enslaved inhabitant of Charleston, South Carolina, to the federal blockade, considering the tactical advantages afforded the Union navy by Smalls's journey to freedom. Sarah

Eiland's "The Unspoken Demands of Slavery: The Exploitation of Female Slaves in the Memphis Slave Trade" exploring the values assigned to the bodies of younger female slaves. Eiland argues that these women were assigned value primarily based on their reproductive potential, highlighted in slave auctions and the presence of mixed-race children of prominent white men in antebellum Memphis.

Erica Uzsak's "Frances Peter: A Loyal Woman of Kentucky," analyzes the diary of Frances Peter of Lexington, Kentucky. Peter actively recorded her Unionist sentiments, including wrestling with questions of unionism and emancipation nuanced by daily life in a border state. Finally, Sophie Hammond's "When This Cruel War Is Over": The Blurring of the Confederate Battlefield and Homefront During the Civil War," rounds out the collection. Hammond argues that the close links between the battlefield and the homefront in Confederate society, though initially a strength of the young nation, ultimately eroded in the face of the persistent class divides of Southern society.

We owe a substantial debt of gratitude to all of our associate editors for their hard work this year. We couldn't have brought this journal to you without their dedication! We, therefore, acknowledge the following: Wesley Cline ('23),

Carolyn Hauk ('21), Jaeger R. Held ('23), Brandon R. Katzung Hokanson ('20), Marissa Honeycutt ('23) Garrett Kost ('21), RJ Lehal ('23), Christopher T. Lough ('22), Brandon R. Neely ('23) Pierce Susco ('23). Thank you all for your dedication to the editorial process! We would like to thank Dr. Ian Isherwood ('00), our faculty advisor, for his constant guidance and support of student work. We would also like to thank Sarah Appedu (18'), whose technical support and editorial advice has been an invaluable component of the publishing process for this tenth volume.

And, on a final note to our readers, we hope you enjoy this collection! It is always our pleasure to share excellent student work with you, and we look forward to delivering our eleventh volume to you next year. Stay curious and

Sincerely,

Cameron Sauers, Gettysburg College Class of 2021
Zachary Wesley, Gettysburg College Class of 2020

Contents

- 1** **“Some Personal Coloring.” Examining
The Falsehoods of Joshua Lawrence
Chamberlain at Gettysburg**
Hans G. Myers, Thiel College & University
of Indianapolis
Academic Essay
- 29** **Robert Smalls and The Steamship *Planter*:
Turning the Tides for the Union Military
in the Civil War**
William K. Donaldson, University of North
Carolina Charlotte
Academic Essay
- 53** **The Unspoken Demands of Slavery: The
Exploitation of Female Slaves in the
Memphis Slave Trade**
Sarah Eiland, Rhodes College
Academic Essay
- 76** **Frances Peter: A Loyal Woman of
Kentucky**
Erica Uszak, Gettysburg College
Academic Essay

102 **“When This Cruel War Is Over” : The
Blurring of the Confederate Battlefield
and Homefront During the Civil War**
Sophie Hammond, University of Southern
California
Academic Essay

Contributors

Hans G. Myers graduated from Thiel College in Greenville, Pennsylvania, in May 2019 with a major in History and minors in English Literature and Performing Arts. He is currently a graduate student in Military and Social History at the University of Indianapolis, where he serves as the Gerald and Marjorie Morgan Graduate Assistant in History.

William K Donaldson - As a native of Charleston, South Carolina, and a grandson of Georgia sharecroppers, W. Kevin Donaldson has taken a particular interest in the study of the Old South in his undergraduate work. A senior at the University of North Carolina Charlotte, Donaldson, is majoring in History with a minor in Film Studies. He will graduate in May of 2021. Donaldson has been accepted into UNC Charlotte's early entry program to pursue his Masters in History beginning in the fall of 2020. As a non-traditional student returning to higher education after a 25-year hiatus, Donaldson is committed to the study of History and is proud to have been selected for The Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era.

Sarah Eiland - graduated from Rhodes College in May of 2020 with a double major in International Studies and History, with a concentration in Public

History. At Rhodes, she was the two time Editor in Chief of *The Rhodes Historical Review*. In the fall of 2020, Sarah will be attending University College Dublin to pursue an MA in Gender, Politics and International Relations.

Erica Uszak '22- is a history major with double minors in Civil War Era Studies and public history. She works as a student Fellow for the Civil War Institute and has researched and written two soldier profiles for the Killed at Gettysburg digital history project. She also enjoys playing clarinet in the Bullets Marching Band and the clarinet ensemble.

Sophie Hammond is currently a junior at the University of Southern California. If the pandemic cooperates, she will graduate in May 2021 with majors in History and English.