



2021

Front Matter

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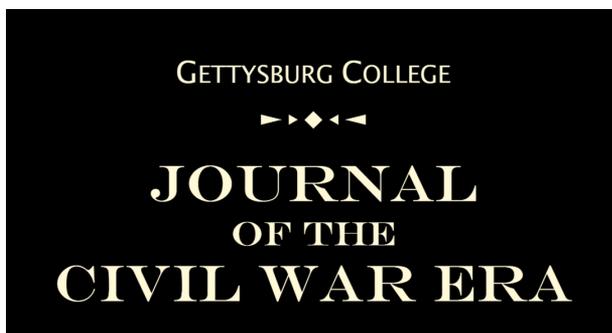
Recommended Citation

(2021) "Front Matter," *The Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era*: Vol. 11, Article 2.

Available at: <https://cupola.gettysburg.edu/gcjcwe/vol11/iss1/2>

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Front Matter



Volume 11 | Spring 2021

Editors-in-Chief

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Emma Monzeglio, Abigail Seiple, Peter Wildgruber

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Cover Image: "Uncle Sam Teaching the Canadian Lion a Little International Law," political cartoon by Thomas Nast in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, February 1865. Courtesy of Special Collections and College Archives Digital Collections (Musselman Library at Gettysburg College).

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

If you or anyone you know has written an undergraduate essay in the past five years on the Civil War Era or its legacy, visit our website at <http://cupola.gettysburg.edu/gcjwe/> to enter have your work considered for next year's volume of the journal. Please review the following requirements and categories for publication.

Publication Requirements and Categories

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 making extensive use of primary and secondary sources. Possible topics include, but are not limited to: military history, social history, race, reconstruction, memory, reconciliation, politics, foreign affairs, the home front, etc. **6,000 words or less.**
2. Book Reviews: Any nonfiction Civil War-related book published in the last two years. Authors should have knowledge of the relevant literature for review. **700 words or less.**
3. Historical Nonfiction Essays: This category is for works of nonfiction surrounding the Civil War that are not necessarily of academic in nature. Examples include essays in public history of the war, study of re-enactment culture, current issues in Civil War memory such as the sesquicentennial, etc. Creativity is encouraged in this

category as long as it remains a nonfiction piece. **2,000 to 6,000 words.**

Anyone with an interest in the Civil War may submit their work, including graduate students and independent scholars, as long as the submission 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.

Letter from the Editors

It is our pleasure to present the eleventh volume of the Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era. This volume contains four academic essays, on topics ranging from battlefield mistakes to bluegrass music. The journal begins with C. W. Claiborne's "Analyzing the Interpretation of the Civil War in Bluegrass Music." This well-researched essay explores themes of reconciliation and emancipation in bluegrass music, as well as a consideration of how Confederate nostalgia became associated with the region of Appalachia. Second, Michael R. D. Connolly examines the relationship between Confederate officials and the Canadian people in "'Good Neighbourhood': Canada and America's Contentious Relationship during the Civil War". Third, Samantha Kramer investigates Ulysses S. Grant's actions at the Battle of Cold Harbor to determine the historical accuracy of his reputation in "Heaven Hung in Black: Grant's Reputation and the Mistakes at Cold Harbor". Finally, Ethan Wagner evaluates one of the worst civilian incidents of the Civil War in "Pittsburgh's Explosive Mystery: A New Holistic Study of the Allegheny Arsenal Tragedy", a compelling essay to conclude this issue.

Each year, the submissions to our journal improve dramatically, highlighting developments in the field of Civil War history and the continuing passion of students around the globe. Identifying the final pieces out of the dozens of well-written and deeply-researched submissions was a challenge which was only overcome by the hard work of our dedicated associate editors. Their commitment and consistency is commendable and we would like to thank them here: Sophia R. Crawford '24, James Douglas Duke '24, Jaeger R. Held '22, Emily R. Jumba '24, Stefany A. Kaminski '24, Emma Monzeglio '24, Abigail Seiple '23,

and Peter Wildgruber '24. We would also like to thank faculty advisor Prof. Ian Isherwood '00 for his constant guidance and support of student work. Finally, we also thank Musselman Library's scholarly communications librarian, Mary Elmquist, for her dedication to making student scholarship accessible.

We hope that this journal will offer our readers a unique view into several important issues and events of the Civil War Era. We are incredibly proud of our editorial team as well as this year's authors, who offer their brilliance in the pages of this volume. We look forward to their future contributions to the Civil War field. Please enjoy this volume of the Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era.

Sincerely,

Cameron T. Sauers '21
Christopher T. Lough '22
Brandon R. Neely '23

Editors-in-Chief
Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era

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Contributors

C. W. Claiborne received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University in 2021. He has had a lifelong interest in American history and is an avid fan of bluegrass music. Some of his other interests include hiking, camping, football, and collecting vintage music. You can read more about his interests at <https://cwclaib.github.io/> .

Michael R. D. Connolly is currently pursuing an M.A. in History at the University of Calgary. He previously attended the University of Ottawa, where he received a Joint Honours B.A. in History and Political Science in French Immersion. A Calgary native, Connolly served as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta from 2015 to 2019, making him one of the first openly LGBTQ+ MLAs elected in the province's history.

Samantha Kramer received a B.A. in History with a minor in English from Washington & Jefferson College in May 2021. In the fall of 2021, she will be attending the College of William & Mary to pursue her M.A. in History.

Ethan J. Wagner graduated from Mercyhurst University in Erie, Pennsylvania in May 2021, where he majored in History with a double minor in Political Science and Psychology. He also concurrently completed coursework for his Master's in Secondary Education: Pedagogy and Practice, which he obtained in December 2021.