Letter From the Editor

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Class of 2003

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Readers,

The inaugural Gettysburg Historical Journal was, in the words of last year’s General Editor, Sarah Andrews, a “good beginning.” So good, in fact, that I worried it would suffer a “sophomore slump” under my leadership. To use another sports metaphor, last year I was the scrawny kid at the end of the bench waving my towel in support. I did my job, but felt little stress regarding the whole project.

This year, while my responsibilities increased, my blood pressure did not. The main reason is explained by the hard work of the entire Editorial Board. Not only was everyone’s contribution excellent, but their demeanor was as well. Meetings were efficient, productive, and FUN. We joked about everything from egg salad to each other, while constructing a journal that reflects the superlative work of Gettysburg’s History students.

The student body can also clarify why I found the year’s work relatively stress free. The quantity and quality of submissions was remarkable. We received nearly twice as many submissions this year compared to last. And though choosing which pieces would be published was difficult, knowing that the journal would be high-quality from cover to cover allowed the board and I to rest easy.

Throughout the whole process of constructing the journal the History Department helped make producing the journal a seemingly simple task. From recruiting the Editorial Board to encouraging their students to submit their work, the entire Department deserves endless thanks. Of course our advisors, Michael Birkner, Julie Landweber, and Timothy Shannon merit special thanks. They provided every bit of help that was needed, in any way that was needed. Above all, they supported us and helped maintain our status as a student run journal.

In short, the second Gettysburg Historical Journal represents the hard work and dedication of many people. Thank you to all who helped. You allowed me to stay on the bench waving my towel more than I anticipated. And your work produced a good continuation of a “good beginning.”

Kevin Luy, ’03
General Editor