

# The Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era

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## Front Matter

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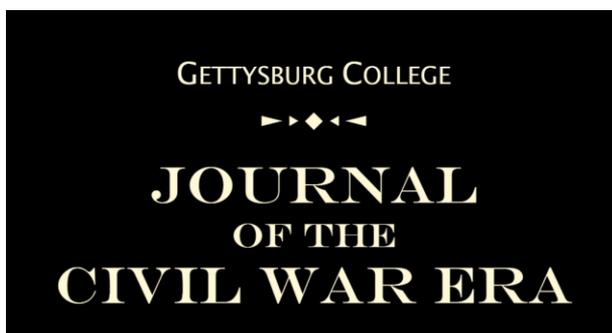
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## Front Matter



## **Volume 8, Spring 2018**

### **Editors-in-Chief:**

Anika N. Jensen, Jeffrey L. Lauck,  
Olivia J. Ortman, Zachary A. Wesley

### **Editors:**

Elizabeth C. Hobbs, Jajuan K. Johnson, Garrett Kost,  
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Nicholas P. Tarchis, Jonathan E. Tracey, Laura G. Waters,  
Samuel K. Weathers

### **Advisor:**

Dr. Ian A. Isherwood

**Cover Image:** A group of Union veterans imprisoned at Andersonville, Libby, Belle Isle, and Florence pose for a photograph during the 18th National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in Minneapolis in 1884. Courtesy of 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 the Editors

It is our pleasure to present the eighth volume of the Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era. This volume contains four academic essays on topics ranging from POWs' post-war experiences to the Louisville & Nashville Railroad's role in the Civil War. The journal begins with Kevin Nicholson's "After Andersonville: Survivors, Memory and the Bloody Shirt." This well-researched essay explores how Andersonville survivors capitalized on their experiences as war prisoners to gain the same recognition after the war that other soldiers received. Next, Matthew Harris takes a look at Lincoln's proposal for recolonizing African Americans to solve racial tensions in "Condemning Colonization: Abraham Lincoln's Rejected Proposal for a Central American Colony." This is followed by "Rewriting History: A Study of How the History of the Civil War Has Changed in Textbooks from 1876 to 2014" by Skyler Campbell, who looks at the evolving popular interpretations of the war in school books. Finally, Gared Dalton explores the Union's strategic uses of the railway in "A Dagger Through the Heartland: The Louisville & Nashville Railroad in the Civil War."

Narrowing submissions down to these four final pieces was difficult, and there was much deliberation by our team over the well-researched pieces we received. The editorial process offered the editors important opportunities to work with authors and explore the field of Civil War history. Our team was able to engage a variety of topics in depth while reading and editing the submissions. We were impressed with each author's enthusiasm in studying the Civil War Era and their commitment to their work in going the extra mile to submit to the eighth volume of our journal.

It is necessary to acknowledge and thank our dedicated associate editors whose hard work and diligence were vital to the ultimate publication of this journal: Elizabeth Hobbs ('21), Jajuan Johnson ('21), Garret Kost ('21), Savannah Labbe ('19), Brandon Peeters ('20), Benjamin Roy ('21), Nicholas Tarchis ('18), Jonathan Tracey ('19), Laura Waters ('19), and Samuel Weathers ('18). We would also like to thank Dr. Ian Isherwood ('00), our faculty advisor, for his constant guidance and support of student work.

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,

Anika N. Jensen, Gettysburg College Class of 2018

Jeffrey L. Lauck, Gettysburg College Class of 2018

Olivia J. Ortman, Gettysburg College Class of 2019

Zachary A. Wesley, Gettysburg College Class of 2020

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## Contributors

**Kevin S. Nicholson** graduated from Gettysburg College, where he majored in History and minored in Educational Studies, in 2015. For the past two years he has been working as a high school social studies teacher at Whitestone Academy at Salisbury Center, a private boarding school in Salisbury Center, NY.

**Matthew Harris** is a senior at Kutztown University. In May 2018, he will graduate with a major in History. After graduation, he will begin his graduate studies at West Virginia University, where he will study the history of United States foreign relations.

**Skyler A. Campbell** is a junior at Albion College. She will graduate in May 2019 with a major in Social Studies and a concentration in Secondary Education.

**Gared N. Dalton** is a senior at Western Kentucky University's Honor College. In May 2018, he will graduate with majors in History and Military Leadership.