



## THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

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### Gettysburg 150th Brings Thousands To Programs, Battlefield, Reenactments

By Kathryn Jorgensen, (August 2013 Civil War News)

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — By almost any standard the Battle of Gettysburg 150th anniversary commemoration from June 28 to July 7 was a success.

Gettysburg National Military Park spokesman Katie Lawhon said the commemoration was "really satisfying and really rewarding." She added, "We feel we met our goal of trying to engage visitors with the meaning of Gettysburg and why places like Gettysburg are important to save for future generations."

Gettysburg Convention & Visitors Bureau Norris Flowers said, "The 150th anniversary was a great success. We saw visitors from around the world, both as spectators and as participants in the many events that took place during this commemoration."

The National Park Service had some extra stress shortly before anniversary programs began. The most upsetting was the unexpected death of Supervisory Ranger Clyde Bell (see obituary this issue). He oversaw the park's museum and visitor center operations and interpretive staff operations.

In announcing his death to the park community Lawhon wrote, "This news comes as a huge blow to park and Foundation staff and LBGs [Guides] who have worked with Clyde for many years."

Then on the evening of June 25 a storm tore through parts of the battlefield, taking down trees and branches, ripping the bronze Mahone's Brigade tablet off its

pedestal on West Confederate Avenue and lifting the 72nd Pennsylvania Regiment bronze soldier off the monument's granite base at The Angle.

The statue of the Zouave swinging his rifle two-handed like a club was put back in place the next day to await repairs after the 150th.

No serious incidents or accidents were reported at the park despite thousands of people attending lectures, tours and living history programs.

People who stayed home could watch 12 hours of live coverage on CPAN-3's American History TV, see a webcast of the July 7 Pickett's Charge, watch videos on Breitbart TV, follow social media and read, hear and see coverage in USA Today and other newspapers and on NPR and TV across the country.

Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN) ran live coverage of the June 30 ceremony and three days of live coverage with battle walks, historian and author interviews.

#### Miscellaneous notes

- Gettysburg photography historian and author William Frassanito was featured in a Washington Post story in which Frassanito talked about his study of the battlefield's photography and topography.

Thanks to him we know that photographer Alexander Gardner staged the dead Confederate sharpshooter at Devil's Den. By searching the battlefield for a split rock, Frassanito determined that a series of Gardner photos were of the same dead taken from different angles.

- Ruth Angeli, 90, of St. Petersburg, Fla., who had attended the 1938 Eternal Light Peace Memorial dedication, visited in June. She posed for the Gettysburg Times with the

Evergreen Cemetery statue of her great-grandmother, Elizabeth Thorn. Angeli spent a night in Thorn's bed and bedroom at the cemetery gatehouse.

When Thorn, whose husband was away with the 138th Pennsylvania Infantry, returned to her gatehouse home after the battle to find the area strewn with dead. Though pregnant, she buried 91 bodies.

- The Gettysburg Anniversary Committee (GAC), host of the July 4-7 150th Gettysburg Anniversary National Civil War Battle Reenactment, presented \$50,000 from reenactor registration fees to five local preservation and service groups.

- The borough's July 3 evening Independence Day parade was cancelled on short notice after a stolen car crashed into a house on Highland Avenue. Not knowing what they were dealing with, and needing manpower for the scene, the police chief cancelled the parade, but the fireworks show went on.

- More than 50 volunteers from the United States Volunteers did site preparation for the Blue-Gray Alliance's June 28-30 Battle of Gettysburg 150th Commemoration and Reenactment. They used 80 tons of stone and 1,400 feet of fencing to make an exact replica of the July 3 Union defensive positions against the Confederate assault.

The horizontal 400-foot front wall and rear stone wall were connected by a third wall making the "angle." Rail fencing and a copse of trees recreated the original scene.

- Gettysburg College has a free app titled "The Gettysburg College: Witness to History," a 1.2-mile historical walking tour through the campus and town. The college's Majestic Theater is showing



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"Addressing Gettysburg," a 15-minute film about the Gettysburg Address, every half hour from 12 to 6 p.m. this summer.

- The Philadelphia Inquirer ran a Gettysburg site updated daily with video, contemporary and historical stories and front page reprints. Viewers learned that on July 3, 1863, copies of The Philadelphia Inquirer with the first day's battle account were sold on the battlefield by a newsboy who brought the papers on horseback from Westminster, Md.

The story was written by Uriah Hunt Painter. He arrived in Gettysburg the night of July 1, wrote the story, returned to Baltimore July 2 and received War Department approval to telegraph it to his newspaper.

The Inquirer launched the story of the dead Union soldier found clutching an image of his three children. Publications across the country were asked to help identify him and copies of the ambrotype image were sold to raise funds. Sgt. Amos Humiston of Portville, N.Y., Co. C, 154th New York, is remembered with a monument on Stratton Street near where he died.

- Reenactors from 22 countries including Bahamas, Brazil, Denmark, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Korea, Scotland, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and Wales attended the GAC event.

### **CIVIL WAR TRUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES CAMPAIGN TO SAVE FLEETWOOD HILL AT BRANDY STATION BATTLEFIELD**

CWi, August 20th, 2013

The Civil War Trust, America's largest nonprofit battlefield preservation group, today announced that it has successfully completed a \$3.6 million national

fundraising campaign to preserve 56 acres of historic Fleetwood Hill on the Brandy Station Battlefield in Culpeper County, Va., site of the largest cavalry battle ever fought on the North American continent. In celebrating the success of this project, one of five most ambitious in the

organization's history, Civil War Trust president James Lighthizer issued the following statement:

"This is a day that those of us in the preservation community have long dreamt of, the day we can finally say that Fleetwood Hill is protected forever.

Prior to this, the Trust and its partners had protected some 1,800 acres at Brandy Station, but without those crowning heights set aside for future generations, no visitor could gain a full and definitive understanding of this

critical action. Now that we have raised the full purchase price and closed

on this property, the heart and soul of the Brandy Station Battlefield, we have

turned a preservation success story into a triumph.

"This achievement simply would not have been possible without the cooperation

of the entire battlefield preservation community — particularly the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground and the Brandy Station Foundation, whose assistance, both advisory and financial, has been indispensable. Moreover, the enthusiastic support of

the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program and the Commonwealth of Virginia's Civil War Sites Preservation Fund has meant the difference between dream and reality. Without the vital matching grants supplied by these two programs, an undertaking of this scale would have been all but insurmountable.

"I also offer my heartfelt thanks to each individual who contributed to this effort. The outpouring of support that the Trust received toward this project, illustrating the number of Americans who firmly believe in the respect and protection of our shared history, has been inspirational. Much work remains on this tract, as we lay the groundwork to remove modern structures and restore the land to its wartime appearance, but I know that all of our members and allies join me today in celebrating this tremendous achievement."

The Battle of Brandy Station is considered by historians as the beginning of the momentous Gettysburg Campaign. Union cavalry, long considered inferior to their Confederate counter parts, launched a bold crossing of the Rappahannock River in the early hours of June 9, 1863. They initially surprised the Southern horsemen, with charge and countercharge raging across the landscape for much of the day before the Federals retired back across the river. All told, more than 20,000 cavalymen fought at Brandy Station. The epicenter of the fighting was Fleetwood Hill, which overlooked much of the battlefield and served as headquarters for Confederate chieftain, General James Ewell Brown "J.E.B." Stuart. Historian and preservation advocate Clark "Bud" Hall calls Fleetwood Hill "without question the most fought over,



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camped upon and marched over real estate in the entire United States. Cumulatively, the Civil War Trust has protected more than 1,850 acres at Brandy Station and maintains a public interpretive trail across the battlefield.

### **Gettysburg man charged with theft was an Adams County sheriff's deputy**

Suspect faces charges that he stole more than \$82,000 worth of antique military merchandise from The Union Drummer Boy.

By MARK WALTERS , The Hanover Evening Sun, August 15, 2013

A Gettysburg man charged with the theft of thousands of dollars worth of military merchandise was formerly a sheriff's deputy with the Adams County Sheriff's Department, according to Len Supenski, chief deputy of the department.

Richard James Holliday, 36, was employed with the department from June until this week, Supenski said.

"When we were notified of the investigation, he asked to resign," Supenski said. "If he didn't resign, we would have terminated him."

Holliday, who lives at 138 W. Middle St., faces charges that he stole more than \$82,000 worth of antique military merchandise from The Union Drummer Boy, where he used to work. That is the the value of the allegedly stolen property that has so far been recovered.

The store's owner, Brendan Synnamon, said all the merchandise that was stolen, much of which is still being tracked down, is worth at least \$100,000.

Supenski said Holliday passed the department's lengthy and thorough hiring process, which includes a drug test, background check and criminal history check.

"He passed without any indication of there being any issues," Supenski said.

Police said the stolen items included firearms, photographs, clothing, medals and other Civil War collector's items taken from The Union Drummer Boy's two locations - 34 York St. in Gettysburg and 1863 Gettysburg Village

The affidavit noted a Confederate Griswold & Gunnison revolver and accompanying holster, an O W&J Rigby pistol and a belt buckle with "S. Burbank" engraved on it were among items missing from Synnamon's store, as well as some things from his personal collection displayed there.

Some of the merchandise was seized from Holliday's residence after state police executed a search warrant.

In the affidavit, Synnamon said that the cash register and cash sales were found to be inconsistent at the store in Gettysburg when Holliday worked there. At that point, the affidavit reads, Synnamon reviewed sales records and videotapes of shifts worked by Holliday and realized the store's surveillance system was being intentionally unplugged during Holliday's shifts.

Synnamon began keeping a sales log of Holliday's shifts, which Holliday eventually discovered, the affidavit states. From that point on, the affidavit continues, sales logs began to be accurate.

On Friday, Synnamon's wife told him that Civil War items were for sale on a Facebook page made by Holliday, the affidavit states. Synnamon also saw an item displayed at the Horse Soldier, 219 Steinwehr Ave., Gettysburg, that was for sale and was missing from The Union Drummer Boy, according to police documents.

Maurice "Sam" Small, the owner of the Horse Soldier, told police his

business traded a Civil War recruitment poster for various items from Holliday, the affidavit states. Small told police he recalled Holliday really wanting the poster because it was from the same town as his father. Some of the items he received from Holliday had already been sold, Small told police, but some were still in the shop and he could retrieve others.

State police said the investigation is ongoing and they and Synnamon are attempting to recover more of the stolen property. They are asking anyone who may have bought or traded items with Holliday within the last year to contact Trooper Douglas Kelley at the state police's Gettysburg barracks.

### **U.S. Army Transfers 312 Acres At Fort Monroe; 70 Acres In Dispute**

By Scott C. Boyd, (August 2013 Civil War News)

FORT MONROE, Va. – Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell signed a quitclaim deed on June 4 that transferred ownership of 312 of Fort Monroe's 565 acres from the U.S. Army back to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

He also authorized execution of the Memorandum of Understanding for the transition plan and the Right-of-Entry agreement for the maintenance and operation of the utility systems at Fort Monroe.

"We are pleased that a portion of Fort Monroe is being reunified with the Commonwealth," McDonnell said in a press release.

"The acceptance of the 312 acres is the first step in receiving all of the property back into the ownership of the Commonwealth of Virginia," said Glenn Oder, Executive Director of the Fort Monroe Authority (FMA), in a press release. The FMA is the state's



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political subdivision that operates and maintains the property.

The Army is disputing the ownership of approximately 70 acres, claiming they were not included with the original land given by Virginia and thus should not revert following the base closure.

The Army wants to transfer the 70 acres it says should not be part of the 565-acre package, but "they believe that there's [financial] compensation involved," Oder said. "Both parties are working hard to not have it go to court. I would like to think we can come to agreement by the end of the year."

McDonnell's press release said, "We look forward to continuing the work with the Secretary of the Army to secure the remaining portions of Fort Monroe, as well as the transfer to the National Park Service."

Virginia gave the land to the Army in the early 19th century for coastal defense, with the understanding that it would revert to the Commonwealth if the Army left. The fort was built between 1819 and 1834.

A series of post-Cold War U.S. military base closures resulted in the closing of Fort Monroe on Sept. 15, 2011.

President Barack Obama created the Fort Monroe National Monument on Nov. 1, 2011, by invoking the Antiquities Act. The National Park Service unit includes the historic moated fort as well as most of the open space to the north of the fort (see December 2011 CWN).

Fort Monroe's 565 acres are a patchwork of seven parcels from a series of property transfers over the past 200 years, according to Oder. "It is a 'multi-layered cake.'"

The approximately 244 acres for the NPS unit "overlap tremendously" with the 312 acres transferred, he said.

The moat will not be handed over immediately because the Army is still dealing with hazardous materials disposal there, Fort Monroe National Monument Superintendent Kirsten Talken-Spaulding said.

Asked whether she wished the NPS unit had more acreage, Talken-Spaulding said, "We don't define our park boundaries, we manage the boundaries we're given."

Since there are some activities that may not be done in a national park, the public will benefit from some of the 565 acres belonging to the NPS and some to the Commonwealth, according to Talken-Spaulding. "There's real strength in diversity of ownership."

For information about what the park is doing visit [www.nps.gov/fomr](http://www.nps.gov/fomr)

### **Iconic Gettysburg monument back on the battlefield**

The monument to the 72nd Pennsylvania, topped by a storm in June, has been repaired and replaced.

The Hanover Evening Sun, August 08, 2013

The monument to the 72nd Pennsylvania is back on its battlefield pedestal, standing guard over the area where the Union line at Gettysburg was attacked during Pickett's Charge.

The bronze figure atop the monument to the regiment, which played a key role in the battle, was toppled by wind June 25 as Gettysburg was gearing up for its commemorations of the 150th anniversary of the battle. The figure, representing a soldier swinging his rifle like a club, was temporarily replaced for the anniversary, but later removed for repair.



Gettysburg National Military Park preservation staffers Brian Griffin, left, and Lucas Flickinger guide the bronze figure as it is lifted by a crane. The figure was toppled from its pedestal during a storm in late June. (THE EVENING SUN -- CLARE BECKER)

Park preservation supervisor Lucas Flickinger said the storm bent the bronze figure's rifle and also necessitated repairs in the shoulder socket area. The monument was brought onto the battlefield Thursday morning on flatbed truck and lifted by crane onto its original base, a process that took approximately 10 minutes.

The monument is considered a battlefield icon and was chosen for the back of the Gettysburg quarter.

### **Toni Dufficy Joins Gettysburg Staff as Chief of Interpretation**

CWi, August 15th, 2013

Toni Dufficy has been selected as the new Chief of Interpretation at Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site. Dufficy has served as the Chief of Interpretive Planning at the National Park Service's Harpers Ferry Center since April 2005. She will begin her duties on September 9.

The park's new Chief of Interpretation position oversees the interpretive, educational and visitor service activities at both Gettysburg and Eisenhower parks, including planning,



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operations, and evaluation, selection and training of personnel and coordinates with park partner organizations in providing Interpretation and Visitor Services to the public.

Prior to Harpers Ferry Center, Dufficy served in interpretation and education positions at a variety of parks for the past 28 years including Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, Women's Rights National Historical Park, Theodore Roosevelt National Park (North Unit), Everglades National Park, Biscayne National Park, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Fort Raleigh National Historic Site and Wright Brothers National Memorial. Toni also was the first space ranger assigned to work with NASA at the Goddard Space Flight Center.

"I am very excited to begin work as the Chief of Interpretation at Gettysburg and Eisenhower Farm," Dufficy said. "My family has visited here many times since I was a young child, and I am now delighted to have the opportunity to work with partners and staff to help others discover the powerful stories within these two very special places."

"Toni Dufficy is great choice for this newly redefined position," said park superintendent Bob Kirby. "She has the depth and breadth of experience necessary to handle the scope and complexity of this very important job. Dufficy is a native Marylander and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Outdoor Recreation and Interpretation from the University of Maryland and a Master's Degree in Earth Science Education from Mississippi State University. Living with her husband and pets on the family farm near Brunswick, Maryland, Dufficy currently enjoys traveling, Irish set dancing, and researching her family history including a great uncle who

served in the US Army at Gettysburg and her grandfather's World War II US Army service in Europe.

### **Forgotten chapter of Civil War: They were soldiers – and women, too**

Women sometimes fought alongside men in the Civil War, but their stories are not well-known.

By BRIGID SCHULTE The Washington Post, April 12, 2013  
Under a deadly barrage of artillery fire, wave after wave of Union troops hurled themselves across an open field outside of Fredericksburg, Va., on a bitterly cold mid-December day and charged up a steep hill in a futile attempt to dislodge Confederates dug in atop Marye's Heights.

By nightfall, nearly 13,000 Union troops lay dead or wounded - double the number of fallen Confederates - and a "young and good-looking" corporal from New Jersey that a comrade described as "a real soldierly, thoroughly military fellow," was promoted to sergeant for bravery.

One month later, the sergeant, a veteran of the Seven Days Battle and Antietam, gave birth to a baby boy.

"What use have we for women, if soldiers in the army can give birth to children?" an astonished Col. Elijah H.C. Cavins, of the 14th Indiana, wrote to his wife.

The New Jersey sergeant, whose name and fate have been lost to history, was not the only woman disguised as a man fighting at Fredericksburg that day. Sarah Emma Edmonds, using the alias Pvt. Franklin Thompson, spent 12 hours on her horse, often under enemy fire, delivering dispatches as the orderly to Union Gen. Orlando Poe.

A teenage Lizzie Compton, whom fellow soldiers knew as Jack or Johnny, was discovered to be a woman only after the battle when military doctors peeled her blue uniform away to treat a shrapnel wound to her side. Discharged - it was illegal to serve in the military as a woman - Compton would go on to reenlist in and be discovered by six more regiments and serve in the Union army a total of 18 months.

In January, the Pentagon agreed to allow women to fight in combat. But what was ignored in that controversial debate was the long-forgotten history of hundreds of American women who had fought bravely in the nation's wars, won battlefield citations for valor and died on the front lines.

Their ranks include Deborah Sampson, who served for 17 months in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War as Robert Shurtliff, and Lucy Brewer, who served with the Marines aboard Old Ironsides as George Baker during the War of 1812. And historians have found that an estimated 400 to 1,000 women, perhaps more, disguised themselves as men and took up arms in the Civil War.

"We just lifted the ban on women in combat as if it were a new phenomenon. It's not," said Elizabeth Leonard, a historian at Colby College in Maine who has studied women soldiers of the Civil War. "It's that we let these stories disappear."

DeAnne Blanton, a military historian at the National Archives, and Lauren Cook Wike have spent more than a decade meticulously combing diaries, letters, burial records, military reports and newspapers documenting the service of women soldiers.

In their book, "They Fought Like Demons," they found evidence that at least 250 women dressed as men



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and fought for the North and the South in virtually every major battle of the bloody Civil War.

At least eight women combatants fought at Antietam. Catherine Davidson's right arm was amputated. Mary Galloway was shot in the neck. A woman fighting for the Confederates died in the Cornfield at Antietam. Five women fought at Gettysburg. One Confederate woman was shot in the leg, and two were cut down in Pickett's Charge.

Women soldiers fought in the First Battle of Bull Run. "There were a great many fanatic women in the Yankee army," a Georgia Confederate wrote home, "some of whom were killed." In fighting near Dallas in May 1864, several Confederate women soldiers were killed in an assault on Union lines. "They fought like demons," Sgt. Robert Ardry of the 11th Illinois Infantry wrote to his father, "and we cut them down like dogs."

Confederate Loreta Janeta Velazquez, disguised as Lt. Harry Buford, fought along with five other women soldiers in the Battle of Shiloh. Maria Lewis, an African-American passing as a white male soldier, served in the 8th New York Cavalry and "skirmished and fought like the rest," a fellow soldier wrote. Four Confederate women were promoted to the rank of captain. At least one was a major.

"We know that because these women were hiding the fact that they were women, they were fully expected to do everything that any other soldier in the company was expected to do," Blanton said.

"They didn't get a pass because of their gender. They were hiding their gender."

It was easy for women to infiltrate the Union and Confederate ranks.

Although Army regulations required all recruits to have a physical, the examinations became cursory as each side became desperate for fresh troops. "Often, they'd just have recruits walk by," Blanton said. "And if they weren't lame or blind and if their trigger finger worked, they were in."

(The Army became serious about entrance physicals in 1872, Blanton said: "The Civil War was really the last time women could sneak into the Army and pass herself off as a man.") Because so many soldiers were teenaged boys who had yet to shave, a woman's beardless face went unnoticed. The ill-fitting uniforms hid their shape, most soldiers rarely bathed and everyone slept in their clothes.

When armies were camped out in the field, it would have been easy for these women to slip away into the woods to take care of bodily functions, Blanton surmised, and months of marching, poor nutrition and the stress of combat most likely interrupted many menstrual cycles.

Sometimes, just the fact that the women wore pants and acted in a way wholly unexpected in the prim, Victorian era of hoop skirts and fainting couches gave them cover. "I readily recall many things which ought to have betrayed her," Poe, Sarah Edmonds' commanding officer, later confessed, "except that no one thought of finding a woman in soldier's dress."

Their service became an open secret. Fellow soldiers wrote home about them and chronicled their exploits, if not their names, in their diaries. Stories romanticizing their adventurous spirits and extolling their patriotism appeared in the New York Times, the Richmond Examiner and the Chicago Daily Tribune. Edmonds

and Velazquez penned popular memoirs.

"No editor can turn over a morning's 'exchange papers' without encountering authentic anecdotes of some fair and fast Polly or Lucy who, led by the spirit of patriotism, love, or fun, has donned the blue breeches and follows the drum," wrote the United States Service magazine.

But over time, the stories of these outed women soldiers were forgotten. And once the war was over, hundreds more who'd made it through undetected, learning to spit, smoke, chew tobacco, swear, play cards and swagger like a man, slipped out of their uniforms and into obscurity.

For nearly 50 years, the Adjutant General's Office denied women soldiers existed.

For more than a century, only the family of Pvt. Lyons Wakeman, 153rd Regiment, New York State Volunteers, knew that the body buried in Chalmette National Cemetery near New Orleans was that of a woman, Rosetta Wakeman.

She'd died of dysentery, as many soldiers did, after a long, hot march from Alexandria, Va., to Louisiana.

Wakeman, who grew up on a farm, was working as a man on the canal boats before she enlisted. She was like many of the women soldiers Blanton has found - working-class city girls who toiled in factories or as seamstresses in the North for about \$4 a month or semi-literate farm girls from both North and South.

"If you were being paid starvation wages as a woman, \$13 a month, which was the Union Army pay for a private, sounded pretty good," Blanton said.

Some women followed husbands or sweethearts into battle. Others, like Kentucky Confederate Mary Ann



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Clark, whose husband abandoned her and their two children, then took up with a new wife, left her kids with her mother and became Henry Clark to escape her sorrows.

"The fact that women were willing to risk injury, illness, maiming and even death to escape the kind of lives that were available to them at the time, tells you something about just how limited their choices were," said Leonard of Colby College. "I'm as independent as a hog on ice," Rosetta Wakeman wrote gleefully to her family. "I will dress as I am a mind to for all anyone else [cares], and if they don't let me alone they will be sorry for it."

### LOOKING BACK 1861: Chambersburg takes sides in the Civil War

By JAMES RADA JR.

For [PublicOpiniononline.com](http://PublicOpiniononline.com)

Though Chambersburg is better known for being burned by Confederate troops in 1864, it was a hub of activity from the beginning of the war.

Fort Sumter in South Carolina surrendered to Confederate forces on April 14, 1861, marking the start of the Civil War. A few days later, on April 18, residents of Chambersburg held a ceremony to erect a 120-foot-tall flag pole on the Diamond and a large flag fluttered from it.

"The occasion was made memorable by the singing of 'The Star Spangled Banner' by a band of patriotic ladies in front of the Franklin Hotel, and the delivery of soul-thrilling speeches by Messrs. McClure, Stumbaugh, Reilly, Brewer, Everett, Stenger and Welsh. This pole stood as a witness of the patriotic impulses of the people of the community until Gen. Imboden's rebel cavalry cut it down as they were

following the rear of Lee's army to Gettysburg," according to the "History of Franklin County," published in 1887.

The next day, 150 Franklin County men formed Chambers Artillery unit and became the first Civil War unit formed in Franklin County. The men boarded a rail car on the Cumberland Valley Railroad and headed to Camp Curtin in Harrisburg.

One soldier wrote a letter to the Pennsylvania Daily Telegraph in Chambersburg on April 30, 1861. He noted that, "This usually quiet town now presents a very animated and soldier like appearance, as the sound of the drum, the running to and fro of soldiers, and all the pomp and circumstance of glorius (sic) war, are the distinguishing features of our streets."

As the country got onto its war footing, Marylanders headed north.

"It has been but three weeks since the stars and stripes, as everywhere in the North, came up like a rash all over the town. Two weeks ago these stars and stripes were almost the first to gladden the eyes of loyal fugitives, seeking safety in the North," the New York World reported on May 14, 1861, from Chambersburg.

Despite the loss at Fort Sumter, optimism and support remained high in the Union. The same was also true in Chambersburg. The Union soldier writing to the newspaper said, "The citizens of Chambersburg have been generous in their contributions, and profuse in their kindness to the soldiers and officers; while the ladies, God bless them, smile upon us so sweetly as almost to captivate us all. Their kindness will be a theme of praise among the soldiers now in Camp Curtin in future years. Although not in secret, I fear some of the fair damsels have 'laid siege' to the

hearts of the gallant beaux in our comp, and may furnish a romance or a reality for the future novelist. They no doubt pity the noble fellows; but they should remember the poet says 'pity is akin to love.'"

This near innocence and unwavering optimism would soon be challenged as the war hit close to home.



This early photograph shows Chambersburg as it looked during the Civil War. (Courtesy Gratz Historical Society)