

# THE ANGLE

A bimonthly publication of the Civil War Roundtable of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania  
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MAY / JUNE 2020

"America has no north, no south, no east, no west. The sun rises over the hills and sets over the mountains, the compass just points up and down, and we can laugh now at the absurd notion of there being a north and a south. We are one and undivided."



—SAMUEL RUSH WATKINS (1835-1901), AMERICAN WRITER, HUMORIST, CONFEDERATE SOLDIER

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## Impending Actions

Information and details about upcoming Gettysburg Roundtable presentations. **Reminder..for all indoor meetings, doors open at 6:30 PM and the meeting begins at 7 PM.**

**MAY 28<sup>TH</sup>**

### UPON THE TENTED FIELD: MANLINESS AND COMMUNITY IN CONFEDERATE CAMPS

Although Civil War combat often receives the lion's share of attention, the average soldier spent the majority of his life in camp. Military encampments served as the civilian's entry into the military world, fostered relationships among soldiers thereby building esprit de corps, and became touchstones in wartime letters and postwar memoirs. This talk will recreate this environment and soldiers' experiences therein through letters, art, and artifacts.

**DR. JAMES J. BROOMALL** is an associate professor of history at Shepherd University and the director of the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War, which promotes a dialogue among popular and academic audiences by integrating scholarship, education, and engagement. He has published articles in *Civil War Times*, *Civil War History*, and *The Journal of the Civil War Era* and co-edited with William A. Link, *Rethinking American Emancipation: Legacies of Slavery and the Quest for Black Freedom* (Cambridge University Press, 2016). The University of North Carolina Press published his book, *Private Confederacies: The Emotional Worlds of Southern Men as Citizens and Soldiers*, as part of the *Civil War America* series in 2019. Dr. Broomall has completed one major historic resource



study for the Chesapeake and Ohio National Historical Park and has just submitted a rough draft of another one for the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park. He and several colleagues are currently researching an African American community in and around the Ferry Hill site for the Chesapeake and Ohio National Historical Park.

**ED NOTE: The May meeting will be live-streamed and NOT a gathering at the GAR Hall. An email reminder blast will be sent to the membership on or about May 26. As of publication, it is uncertain whether the June program will take place as planned or become a live-streamed meeting. Updates will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead.**

**JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup> - RAIN DATE: JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>**

### "WHAT MEAN THESE STONES?": CULP'S HILL

This illustrated, downhill walk of about a mile, over occasionally uneven terrain, will look at 26 selected monuments, markers and plaques on the highly contested right of the Union battle line on July 2nd and 3rd. We will discuss the monuments, units, commanders, their actions and monument dedications to more completely understand the battle and the Memorial period of the GNMP. We will meet at the Culp's Hill Tower and finish at the monument of the 2nd Massachusetts in the Spangler Meadow area.

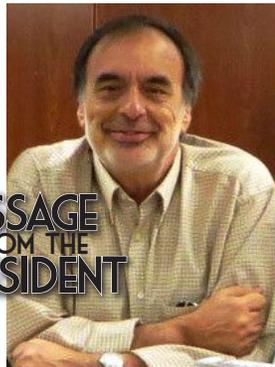
**DR. RICHARD GOEDKOOP** has been a Licensed Guide at Gettysburg since 2000 and has given over 5,800 tours, of varying types on the battlefield. He also is responsible for three series still visible on the [Gettysburgdaily.com](http://Gettysburgdaily.com) website, which include: JFK's 1963 Visit to Gettysburg, Iron Brigade on July 1st, and Union Counterattacks on July 2nd. He also has presented several times Presidents and Gettysburg (a PowerPoint Discussion) to CW audiences.



In an earlier life, he was a member of La Salle University's Communication Department (1980-2012). He was founder and Director of its Graduate Program (1994-2004), and during a sabbatical leave in 2011 was Executive Producer of a series of six-30 minute television programs titled *Pennsylvania in the Civil War*, which aired on the Comcast and Fios cable systems in the Delaware Valley. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of New Hampshire, an MA from Central Michigan and a Doctorate from Penn State.

# Greetings to all...

This will be an abbreviated newsletter. With printing shops closed, it's being sent exclusively by e-mail. If you know of folks who don't have e-access, you might give them a call to update personally. Given social distancing guidelines, we won't try to assemble at the GAR this month. Happily, our initial online experience, produced by Pete Miele, went quite well. Licensed Battlefield Guide Mary Turk-Meena overcame a mid-lecture glitch to offer a splendid presentation on the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War. This was particularly interesting: We had people tuning in from across the country, with one viewer in Australia!

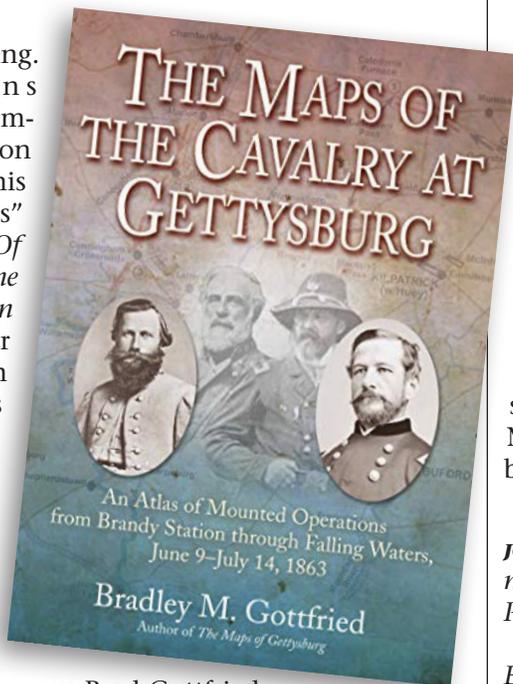


MESSAGE  
FROM THE  
PRESIDENT

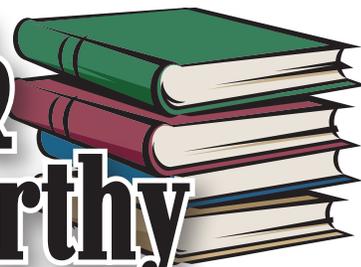
BY BRUCE DAVIS

Happily, our scheduled May presenter, Dr. James Broomall, Director of Civil War studies at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown West, Virginia, has consented to giving his program online. We'll go on air at the regular date and time, Thursday, May 28, 7:00. If anyone had a problem linking in via the Round Table web site or Facebook page, I am yet to hear of it. Those will continue to serve as our platform for information updates. I am hopeful, if not necessarily optimistic, that we'll be able to meet at Culp's Hill, June 26, 6:00 PM, for the first of our summer battlefield adventures, but given the unknowns, we invite you to please visit the web site, [www.cwrtgettysburg.org](http://www.cwrtgettysburg.org) and/or Facebook page for updates.

One more thing. Congratulations to Round Table member Brad Gottfried on the latest volume in his Savas Beatie "Maps" series. *The Maps of The Cavalry In The Gettysburg Campaign* is now available for advance purchase on Amazon, the Savas Beatie site, and sure to be offered widely elsewhere. I had the privilege of seeing an advance copy and will count it as a terrific addition to a home library that already includes numerous Brad Gottfried titles.



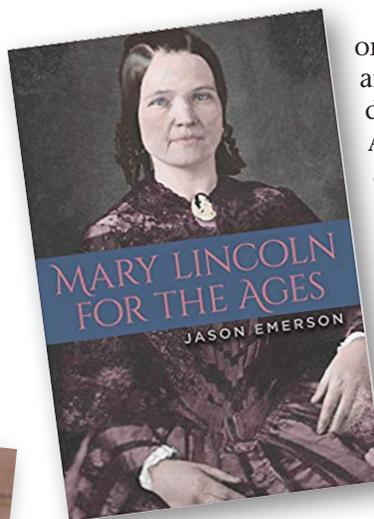
# NEW & Noteworthy



## MARY LINCOLN FOR THE AGES

by Jason Emerson • Bibliography, illustrations, indexes, 213pp., 2019, paperback, \$29.50 • Reviewed by Joseph Truglio

Mary Lincoln is perhaps the most maligned and misunderstood first lady in history. This is the impression I took away from the opening essay of Jason Emerson's valuable new book, which is a unique new research tool for all Lincoln scholars. Unless you have more than a curious interest in Mary Lincoln this may not be the book for you. In the relatively short space of 213 pages, the reader can find virtually everything ever written about Mary.



Presented in chronological order are histories, newspaper articles, essays, interviews, dramas, poetry, musicals, etc. Also included is an index and note sections. Each entry has a short analysis included to give the reader an understanding of the gist of that specific presentation. I found this particularly helpful in selecting appropriate research items.

The opening essay, *Common Canon of Mary Lincoln*, is the author's opinions on how Mary has been treated over the years by historians. He is critical of some for repeating inaccuracies, like Jean Baker and William Herndon, and praises others like Frank Williams and Michael Burlingame. However, at no time did I feel Mr. Emerson was trying to influence my opinions, but rather guiding me to seek out additional information.

As I have said before, this is a valuable tool for serious students. This book presents a road map to learning what Mary Lincoln was really about. It should be on everyone's bookshelf. I highly recommend it.

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**JOSEPH TRUGLIO** of Manchester, NJ is a retired Motion Picture Technician who has a life long interest in the Civil War. He is currently President of the Phil Kearny CWRT in Hasbrouck Heights, NJ. 📷

**ED. NOTE:** This book review was taken from the May 2020 issue of *Civil War News*, pp 41.

Stay healthy!

BRD