U.S. Civil War Materials in Special Collections:
Millersville and beyond
Debate in Philadelphia in September 1858

In the debate, the Rev. Brownlow took the affirmative side and the Rev. Pryne took the negative.
The Normal School in 1860
She writes:
“In the fall of 1860, Mr. Clare and I had left the home of my childhood for the sunny South. Two years previous to our marriage, Mr. Clare emigrated South—there succeeded in business, and then returned to take me to the beautiful home he had erected in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Although some of the Southern States had seceded, yet he trusted and vainly hoped Louisiana would remain true to the flag. But oh what a change within two years!—he obliged to leave his once happy home and escape for his life, and I to return alone without him who had been my light, my earthly all. What a contrast! We did not dream such would be our fate when the Cahawba sailed from New York city, touched at Havana, and finally conveyed us safely to New Orleans. No, reader, such we did not anticipate; bright indeed were our prospects at the beginning, but by this cruel and wicked rebellion all were crushed.”
Brownlow, from Tennessee, was editor of the *Tennessee Whig* and a staunch anti-secessionist. At the beginning of the Civil War he was part of the strong pro-Union presence in East Tennessee. On 24 October 1861 he was arrested by Confederate authorities. He was later escorted to Nashville and turned over to the Union Army.
Rifle Shots at Past and Passing Events

Includes a poem by James R. Wells about the riot in Baltimore that is considered the first bloodshed in the Civil War.
Sarah Emma Edmonds (1841-1898) was born in Canada and is known for serving as a man in the Union Army during the Civil War. She was inducted into the Michigan Women’s Hall of Fame in 1992. Her exploits were described in the best-selling book *Nurse and Spy*. 
John Obreiter served with the 77th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment as a non-commissioned officer from 1861-1865. He was appointed by the governor of Pennsylvania in 1901 as the Chairman of the Shiloh Battlefield Commission for the state. He later was a contributing author to the regimental history published in 1905.
The Diary begins with his induction on 23 October 1861 and ends 9 February 1863.
On the back cover is written:
“In March 1864 whilst escaping from Danville, Va., military prison the section of the foregoing diary, up to the time of its loss was lost somewhere in the Virginia Woods and being unable to replace the lost part it was therefore left as it is. Incomplete. John Obreiter.”
Rebecca Pomroy (1817-1884) was a nurse and a philanthropist working in the military hospitals during the Civil War and also looked after the family of Abraham Lincoln twice.
William Tweed served as a private in Company D of the 1st Pennsylvania Volunteer Reserves.
Request of Board to drill students at the Normal School

Board minutes, 7 November 1861:
Resolved that application be made to the governor of Penna for a military officer to drill students of the Penna State Normal School at Millersville. Said services will be at the expense of the State. On motion adjourned.
Minutes approved Dec. 7th 1861
P.W. Heistand, Sec.
Sarah Morgan, daughter of Judge Thomas Gibbes Morgan and Sarah Fowler Morgan, was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 1842. She kept a diary from March 9, 1862 through May 2, 1865.
Charles Ingersoll (1805-1882)

A Philadelphia attorney, Ingersoll was opposed to the Union cause. He published *A Letter to a Friend in a Slave State by a Citizen of Pennsylvania* in March 1862.

In August 1862 he was arrested for a speech he gave in Philadelphia.
Martin Russell Thayer (1819-1906)

Born in Virginia, Thayer moved to Philadelphia in 1837. He graduated in 1840 from the University of Pennsylvania and was admitted to the bar in 1842, practicing law in Philadelphia. He was a Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives for the state of Pennsylvania.

He replied to Ingersoll’s Letter asking:
“On which side of the great struggle do you stand? Will you stand by the country, or will you follow with the fortunes of the brigadier?...”
May 27th 1862
The Trustees of Penna Normal School held an especial meeting today for the purpose of considering the propriety of releasing Prof. Byerly of his present engagement as teacher in the school.

Resolved that while we highly appreciate the patriotic motives which have induced Prof. Byerly to ask the consent of the Board to release him from his duties as a member of the Normal School faculty in order that he may serve his country in the national army, we think that his present work is so great that the exigencies of the country do not now demand from him and us such a sacrifice.
Andrew Byerly Chooses to Serve

Byerly chose to serve anyway and was commissioned as a Captain in the 122nd Regiment, Company E. He served from 12 August 1862 until his discharge on 15 May 1863.
Brownlow spoke throughout the North and while speaking in Philadelphia, publisher George W. Childs convinced Brownlow to write a book *Sketches of the rise, progress, and decline of secession: with a narrative of personal adventures among the rebels.*
Carrie Bell Sinclair was born in 1839 in Milledgeville, Georgia. She wrote numerous poetry and song lyrics commemorating incidents of the battle-field and praising the Confederate Cause. In “The Homespun Dress”, written in 1862, she praises women for supporting the war effort by wearing handmade dresses.

This transcription was written by Private Lewis M. Prall. He heard the song sung while a patient at Carver General Hospital in Washington, D.C.
Benjamin Rush (1811-1877)

A lawyer in Philadelphia, Rush was the grandson of the physician, Dr. Benjamin Rush.

He ends his letter: “That the patriot hosts who now swell the disciplined armies of the Union to an extent to which history affords no parallel, animated by this spirit and determination, will achieve results which will terminate in this blessed and glorious consummation, and exalt the renown of this country to a pinnacle it has never yet reached, is, I believe, ultimately certain.”
The Diary contains daily accounts of the activities of an enlisted soldier serving in the 173rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment from Oct. 23, 1862 to Aug. 18, 1863. Entries include descriptions of camp life, military training, fortifications around Suffolk and Norfolk, Va., surveillance expeditions, forced marches and commentaries on the people and places Cameron encountered while on duty.
William Bradford Reed (1806-1876)

Born in Philadelphia, Reed was an attorney, diplomat, academic and journalist. He became the Minister to China in 1857 and served until 1860. Upon his return he was active in the Democratic Party.
Diary describes the daily activities of Adam Geist from Feb. 1 to May 3, 1863, a period just prior to Geist's enlistment in the Pennsylvania Militia. Includes entries on events relating to the American Civil War. Adam Geist was a teacher and storekeeper from Earl Township, Lancaster County, Pa. during the middle of the 19th century. During the Confederate invasion of Pennsylvania in the summer of 1863, he served as a corporal in Company F of the 50th Pennsylvania Militia.
John Meredith Read (1797-1874)

An American lawyer, jurist and politician from Philadelphia. One of the founders of the Republican Party, he was also Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

He wrote:
“The armies of the Union are not fighting for any single State, but they are fighting for their common country, the United States of America, as Americans; and, those who have perished in this contest for the preservation of the Union, have died under the National flag, which I trust will soon wave over the whole undivided territory of our glorious and once happy Union.”
A Voice from the Army on the Opposition to the Government

Camp Near Belle Plain, March 12th, 1863.
“A meeting of the officers and soldiers of the One hundred and fiftieth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers was held at the regimental headquarters on the 11th day of March, 1863, in pursuance of the following call signed by all the officers of the regiment:

“The undersigned, officers of the One hundred and fiftieth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, respectfully request Colonel Wister, commanding the regiment, to call a meeting for the purpose of expressing our earnest loyalty and devotion to our country, and our detestation of the Northern traitors now endeavoring to paralyze the efforts of the army in the field, and insidiously to overthrow their country’s cause.”
In June 1863 MSNS and F&M sent student soldiers to Columbia to defend the riverbank. On June 28th the bridge was burned. Following this incident J.P. Wickersham accepted a Colonel’s commission in the 43rd Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers.
No Commencement in 1863
Savoury Dish for Loyal Men, 1863

CONTENTS.

LETTERS FROM GENERAL ROSECRANS.

GOV. CANNON'S MESSAGE AND PROCLAMATION.

ARGUMENTS FROM AN OLD DEMOCRAP.

SPEECH OF HON. D. S. DICKINSON.

LESSONS OF THE PAST:
SHALL WE HEED THEM?

THE ARMY AND THE COPPERHEADS.
John Martin Broomall (1816-1894)

John M. Broomall, from Pennsylvania, was a Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

His stance included:

“All loyal men ought to agree that the entire property of the rebel leaders should be confiscated absolutely, and all reasonable men ought to agree that the lands of the unwilling conscript ought not be confiscated even for his life. Two questions, therefore arise: 1. Between these extremes, where ought confiscation to begin and cease? And, 2, Is there a class of intermediate cases in which confiscation should be for line only?”
The letter was written while Shallenberger was a student at Millersville State Normal School and describes how he had been part of the student body that had been sent to defend Wrightsville in 1863 prior to the Battle of Gettysburg.
Schurz was a German revolutionary, involved in the 1848 revolution. Following the revolution, he immigrated to America, settling in Philadelphia. In 1861 he served as the U.S. Ambassador to Spain. He served during the Civil War for the Union, commanding the “German regiments.”

From speech:
“The affairs of this country have evidently arrived at a crisis. We are engaged in a war for the restoration of the Union. The Union is not yet restored, but we hear the cry of Peace. The desire of peace is not peculiar to any social division or political party—it is cherished by all. But the question, What is peace, and how is it to be restored? this is the question to be solved by a vote of the people in November.”
Soldiers’ monument erected in 1867
Soldiers’ Monument

[Handwritten note]

Mr. D. Davis made the following report:

State Normal School, Dec. 24, 1867

Trustees of State Normal School; I have the honor to report—

I have paid the erection of the monument as required by the resolution—contributing to the monument $20.00 by the Board, providing the monument was completed and erected by the 1st of Nov. 1867.

[Signature]

D. Davis
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location and Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capt. Alason J. Stevens</td>
<td>Murfreesboro, TN, 19 September 1863</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Bare</td>
<td>Harrisburg, 3 November 1863</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew McFarlan</td>
<td>Wahsinton, D.C., 4 January 1863</td>
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<tr>
<td>James K. Lewis</td>
<td>Falmouth, VA, 23 December 1862</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander A. McClurg</td>
<td>Fredericksburg, VA, 13 December 1862</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. Smith Malhorn</td>
<td>Vicksburg, MS, 15 August 1863</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin H. Roberts</td>
<td>Camp Pierpont, VA, 28 January 1862</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lt. Benjamin F. Hibbs</td>
<td>Fredericksburg, VA, 13 December 1862</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron Baker</td>
<td>Spotsylvania Court House, VA, 12 May 1864</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacob B. Kling</td>
<td>Chancellorsville, VA, 3 May 1863</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sgt. John R. Courtney</td>
<td>Charles City Cross Roads, VA, 30 June 1862</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thaddeus S. Herr</td>
<td>Louisville, KY, 4 February 1862</td>
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<tr>
<td>John T. Taylor</td>
<td>Camp Pierpont, VA, 7 December 1861</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albert M. Roth</td>
<td>missing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sgt. Gerrit S. Hambleton</td>
<td>Hilton Head, SC, 31 January 1862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse S. Walter</td>
<td>Marietta from illness, 2 December 1862</td>
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</tbody>
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**Names on West Side of Monument**

- Capt. Oliver Mumford, killed at Petersburg, VA, 18 June 1864
- Sgt. Channing Brinton, killed at Bermuda Hundred, VA, 20 May 1864
- Levi M. Groff, died at Falmouth, VA, 2 January 1863
- Joel J. Jackson, missing
- Lt. Daniel L. Sanders, killed at Antietam, MD, 17 September 1862
- Morgan Pinkerton, died at Acquia Creek, VA, 5 April 1863
- Capt. George H. Durnall, killed at Bermuda Hundred, VA, 20 May 1864
- Lt. George S. Knee, died of wounds received at Fredericksburg, VA, 27 January 1863
- Robert Holmes, died 28 January 1863
- Sgt. Richard J. Maxwell, died from wounds
- Elijah B. Bittinger, accidentally killed near Savannah, GA, 12 June 1865
- Lt. William F. Roberts, wounded at Second Bull Run, died in Wilmington, NC, 19 September 1865
- Capt. W. Dewees Roberts died from wounds in Petersburg, VA, 9 July 1864
- Joseph T. Hunter, missing
- Sgt. Eli Siverd, killed at Fair Oaks, VA, 31 May 1862
- Eugene R. Buckman, missing
William Lour was discharged from the Company A, 206th Regiment, Pa. Volunteers at Richmond, Va. The Discharge was signed by Fre A. Sawyer, Captain, and W.W. Nesbitt, Captain of the Company, on 26 June 1865.