



### Registration Form

This form may be copied. Please complete a separate registration form for each participant.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please register me for Program:    **A**    **B**

I would like a vegetarian entree at dinner.    **Yes**    **No**

I am interested in the Angels Project    **Yes**    **No**

<b>Fees</b>	<b>Discount</b>	<b>After 1/30/12</b>
Adult	\$245.00	\$285.00
Junior/Student	\$175.00	\$215.00
Installment:	\$125.00 w/ registration; \$125.00 by 1/07/12; \$165 after 1/07/12	

I would like to have a copy of the handouts for the "other" program - \$15.00    **Yes**    **No**

**Registration Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Participant Guest Packages:

Fancy Dress Party & Dance Only	\$ 10.00
Dinner, Fancy Dress Party & Dance Only	\$ 40.00
All Meals, Displays, Reception, Party, Dance	\$125.00

Guest's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest Package Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Dinner Seating:

I would like to meet someone new. Please seat me at the table of your choice.    **Yes**    **No**

I would like to be seated with person(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



### Registration Form (Continued)

#### Optional Pre-Conference Workshops

Please indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for times. Participants selecting the two-payment plan must include workshop registration fees with initial registration. A separate kit fee may be charged by the instructor.

#### Thursday:

Intro Needle Tatting	9:00 _____	\$35.00
Intro Bobbin Lace	1:30 _____	\$35.00
Ribbon Wristlets	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Enlarging Patterns	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Details Men's Clothes	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Personal Flags	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Weighted Pincushion	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Belt with Rosette	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Beginning Knitting	All Day _____	\$35.00
Gettysburg Town Tour	9:30 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00

#### Friday:

Enlarging Patterns	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Details Men's Clothes	1:30 _____	\$35.00
Personal Flags	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Weighted Pincushion	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Belt with Rosette	9:00 _____ 1:30 _____	\$35.00
Intermediate Knitting	All Day _____	\$35.00
Civil War Dancing	1:30 _____	\$35.00
Sources in Unexpected Places	1:30 _____	\$35.00

**Workshop Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Due:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Method of Payment (circle one):

Check    Money Order    Visa    Mastercard    Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks/money orders payable to Genteel Arts LLC.

"The Genteel Arts Academy" and "The Ladies & Gentlemen of the 1860s Conference" are subsidiaries of

### Genteel Arts, LLC

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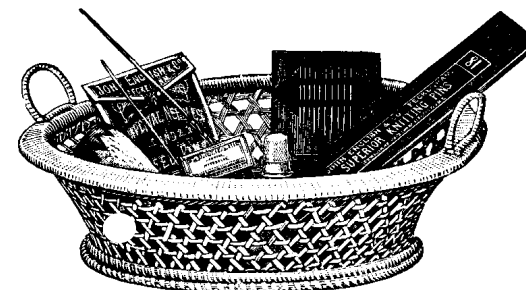
## Genteel Arts

*Proudly Presents the*

*Eighteenth Annual*

# Ladies & Gentlemen of the 1860s Conference

*Clothing and Culture of the Civil War Era*



*Harrisburg, PA  
March 1-4, 2012*



### General Information

**The Ladies & Gentlemen of the 1860s Conference** is recognized as the premier venue for learning about the clothing and culture of the mid-19th century. The Conference provides an opportunity for new and experienced historians, researchers, museum personnel, reenactors and other enthusiasts to meet with their counterparts from across the country, discover new information and learn new skills. Participants of all skill levels and backgrounds are welcome.

The Conference officially begins at 7:00 PM Friday evening and concludes at noon on Sunday. The **registration fee** includes admission to all conference sessions, displays, Marketplace, Welcome Reception, Fancy Dress party & dance, conference notebook and all conference meals and breaks on Saturday and Sunday. A **junior registration fee** is offered to participants age 17 and under when accompanied by an adult. The same reduced rate is offered to full-time college students. Registration fees may be paid via a 2-payment **installment plan**.

**Pre-conference Workshops and Seminars** are scheduled for Thursday and Friday. All participants and guests are invited to a **Welcome Reception** on Thursday evening. An **Angels Project** to assist local museums will be held on Wednesday.

The conference features outstanding **displays of original garments**, accessories and items of material culture. You are encouraged to bring your items for display; contact us for more information. The displays are changed daily, and may be photographed.

The **Marketplace** features juried vendors offering documented merchandise and is open to the general public. There is no admission fee.

You are invited to join us for **dinner, a Fancy Dress party and dance Saturday evening**. Costumes are encouraged but not required. Guests are welcome for dinner and/or the party for an additional fee. An optional meal package that includes all conference meals, displays, fancy dress party and dance is also available.

**Complete Details at [www.genteelarts.com](http://www.genteelarts.com)**





### *Pre-Conference Workshops & Seminars*

Please register for the earliest session your schedule permits. Please indicate on the registration form your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices for each workshop. **A materials fee may be charged by the instructor.** Register early, space is limited!

**Beginning Knitting - Beth Chamberlain.** Knitting was both a necessary skill and an art form, providing garments to keep the family warm and accessories for both the person and home. We'll discuss the basics of knitting, learn the most common stitches, discuss what tools and materials were available and how they were used, strategies for interpreting historic patterns and we'll start a simple pair of mufattees. A kit including knitting needles and yarns will be provided. Kit fee: \$10.00.

**Intermediate Knitting - Beth Chamberlain.** Knitting patterns in 19<sup>th</sup> century publications can be confusing and baffling. We'll go over some of the most common stitches used in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, tips and techniques for interpreting and refining patterns, ways to adjust and resize while maintaining accuracy, and experiment with some yarns and techniques for fancy work. Test swatches will be compiled into a swatch book you can use for future reference. A kit containing knitting pins for fine work and yarns will be provided. Kit fee: \$12.00.

**Weighted Pincushion - Annette Bethke.** Weighted pincushions are an alternative to sewing birds. Rather than fastening onto a table, weighted pincushions can be used almost anywhere without worrying about a ledge or lip on which it must adhere. The project can easily be completed and requires minimal sewing skills. A kit including period instructions and documentation, base, all fabrics, bag and bran. Kit fee: TBA

**Ribbon Wristlets - Carolann Schmitt.** Wristlets were usually worn in pairs as bracelets, as an embellishment to the bottom of sleeves or undersleeves or to trim the tops of a pair of gloves. They were made from ribbon or bits of fabric and trimmed with rosettes, loops, tassels or buckles. Cotton elastic hidden inside the wristlet keeps



them in place. We will view period photographs of women wearing wristlets and period engravings of a variety of styles; then begin work on a pair of wristlets. A kit containing all materials will be provided. Kit fee: TBA.

**"Here is a flag I will send you..." - Colleen Formby.** Miniature or "personal" flags were a common statement of patriotism and a touch of home for the absent soldier. We will look at the different types and styles of these flags, and participants will receive a handout which will include patterns, and primary source documentation, as well as a CD with period images and contemporary photographs for inspiration. The kit will contain enough silk fabric, threads, perforated paper and other materials to create a minimum of four small flags of various types, either Union and/or Confederate. Kit fee: \$25.00.

**Introduction to Needle Tatting - Deb Bender.** Tatting, made by shuttle or needle, is a lacemaking technique involving the making of lark's head knots, or the double stitch, over a foundation thread. The double stitches are arranged in a series of rings and chains to complete the design. This class will focus on needle tatting, which many consider to be easier than the shuttle. Beginning students will learn the double stitch, picots, and joins. A kit including tatting needle, instruction book, patterns and thread will be provided. Kit fee: \$20.00.

**Introduction to Bobbin Lace - Deb Bender.** Bobbin lace is a logical and systematic technique of weaving threads to create lace. The finished results are both exquisite and original and the making of it is creative and fascinating. The instructor will display a variety of laces from her personal collection and share highlights of lace history during the class. Beginning students will create a sampler of the three basic stitches. A kit containing threads and other supplies will be provided. Equipment will be available for in-class use only. Kit fee: \$10.00.

**What Goes Around? Making a Belt with Ribbon Rosette - Kay Cogswell.** Victorians loved their rosettes and they were commonly used to adorn



### *Tentative Schedule*

#### Wednesday, February 29

All Day Angels Project at area museums

#### Thursday, March 1

8:00 Registration opens  
9:00 Morning workshops/tours begin  
1:30 Afternoon workshops/tours begin  
7:30 Welcome Reception

#### Friday, March 2

8:00 Registration Opens  
9:00 Morning/All-day Workshops begin  
11:00 Marketplace opens  
1:30 Afternoon workshops begin  
7:00 Conference Opens. Marketplace closes  
7:05 *Senator & Mrs. Golladay Visit the Army*  
8:20 Stand and stretch break  
8:30 *A Slave Owning and Enslaved Family*  
9:45 Sessions close. Judging of competition entries. Displays open until 10:30 PM.

#### Saturday, March 3

7:00 Breakfast  
7:30 Marketplace opens  
8:00 Session opens

#### Program A

8:30 *What's In a Name?*  
9:45 Break  
10:15 *Hemlock is a Natural Product*

#### Program B

8:40 *Chapeaux for the Common Man*  
9:55 Break  
10:25 *The Mills of New England*  
12:00 Lunch. Displays, Marketplace, Door Prizes

#### Program A

1:30 *Metamorphosis of the American Silk Industry*  
2:15 Break  
3:45 *Merciful Heavens, It's Hot!*

#### Program B

1:40 *Army Sutler: Shyster or Businessman?*  
2:55 Break  
3:25 *The Knack of the Knock: Tinsmithing*  
5:30 Marketplace and Displays Close  
6:00 Reception  
6:30 Dinner  
8:15 Fancy Dress Party and Dancing

#### Sunday, March 4

7:30 Breakfast  
8:00 Marketplace opens.  
8:30 *So You Want to be a Farmer or his Wife?*  
9:45 Break  
10:30 *The Ordeal of the Civilians of Gettysburg*  
11:45 Closing remarks  
12:00 Conference closes



### *Sewing & Needlework Competition*

This year's competition is the best reproduction of a **quilted bonnet or hood**. Your entry must be a style commonly worn between 1855 and 1865 and should be made using period construction techniques.

Participants will compete in two categories. Those who have won in a previous competition will compete in the *Masters Class*. Those who have never won in a previous competition will compete in the *Needleworkers Class*. Three prizes will be awarded: one for the best reproduction in each class as judged by the speakers and one for the entry selected by popular ballot of the conference participants.

Judging will be based on overall appearance, materials, trimmings, construction, workmanship and documentation. Judges' points may be added for outstanding effort in any of the categories. Pre-

### *Conference Refund Policy*

A \$15.00 handling fee will be charged on all cancellations. Full refunds for cancellations made on or before January 23, 2012. 50% refunds for cancellations made before February 6, 2012. **NO REFUNDS** after February 6, 2012; however substitutions will be allowed.

### *Hotel Information*

**Radisson Penn Harris**  
**1150 Camp Hill Bypass**  
**Camp Hill, PA 17011-3734**  
**(717) 763-7117 phone**  
**(717) 763-4518 (fax)**

A block of rooms has been saved at \$100.00 plus tax per night with 1-4 persons/room. Please state that you are with the 1860s Conference to receive the discounted rate. The hotel will honor the reduced rate until February 2, 2012 at which time the price will return to the standard rate.

### *Program Subject to Change*

Although we try to plan for every eventuality, the Conference schedule, speakers, presentations and workshops may be subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.





We will look at soldier's writings and period newspapers to see what they had to say at the time about sutlers. When the presentation is over you can decide if sutlers were really shysters or just good businessmen protecting their interests while providing a needed service and making a profit to support themselves and their families.

**The Knack of the Knock: The Production and Uses of Tinware** - *Jeff Leister*. Tinplate (*noun*) - A bright and shiny product used for a variety of articles. The presentation will discuss how tinplate was manufactured and how articles were produced from it. We will also discuss the many processes used to decorate tinware and tinsmithing as a profession. This trip will span almost two centuries of the history of the production and application of tinware, with special emphasis on the mid-19th century and major changes in the craft of tinsmithing.

*Additional information on the presentations and workshops and biographies of the speakers can be found on our web site at [www.genteelarts.com](http://www.genteelarts.com)*

### *Angels Project for Area Museums*

On Wednesday, a limited number of Conference participants will have the opportunity to serve as behind-the-scenes volunteers at selected area museums. Volunteers will assist museum staff with a number of tasks including but not limited to: preparing and packing original garments or artifacts in archival boxes, cutting and assembling archival materials to mount three-dimensional objects, storing and filing periodicals and photographs, mounting displays, assisting with data entry, moving boxes to and within storage areas, and other tasks as assigned by the institution and staff.

Participation is limited. Applicants will be accepted on a first-come, first served basis; a waiting list will be maintained in the event additional space becomes available. There is no fee for participants; volunteers must supply their own transportation to and from the museum locations. A list of participating institutions will be posted on our web site.



### *The Pleasure of Your Company is Requested for Dinner, Fancy Dress Party and Dancing*

Fanny Dress parties were very popular during the mid-19th century. The Conference invites you to create a costume and join us for a social hour, dinner, a costume parade and period dancing. No, you don't have to make a new dress or coat. You may already have a costume in your wardrobe, all you need are some inspiration and accessories. You may also wear period evening attire or appropriate modern dress.

Music will be provided by the period ensemble *Smash the Windows*. Wayne Belt & Norma Calhoun will serve as Dance Master & Mistress.

Admission to the ball is included in the Conference registration fee. Guests of participants may join us for the dinner and the party or for the party and dancing only for an additional fee.

Admission is limited to Conference participants and their guests until February 6, 2012. Non-conference participants may purchase tickets beginning February 7, 2012. Please contact us to be placed on a wait-list.

Please join us to celebrate the occasion!

### *Your Participation Supports Preservation!*

In the past six years, all of the registration fees from selected pre-Conference workshops and tours have benefited historic sites and historic preservation organizations. Through your gracious participation, the Conference has donated in excess of \$3,300 to the Adams County Historical Society, \$2,000 to the Archives at the Gettysburg National Military Park, \$2,500 to the Shippensburg University Fashion Archives and Museum, \$375 to the Gettysburg Civil War Round Table Preservation Fund and \$250 to the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center - a total of \$8,425.

The funds donated have been earmarked for preservation projects for the respective organizations and collections. The Conference will continue to support these and similar institutions in 2012 and in the future. A sincere thank you is extended to each participant for their support.



women's clothing and accessories. From shoes, to hats, to dresses and belts, there wasn't anything that couldn't be trimmed with the ever popular and stylish rosette. During this workshop you will make a black silk taffeta belt trimmed with a black silk rosette. Minimal sewing skills are required. A kit including hooks and eyes, silk taffeta, silk ribbon, stiffening and a decorative center button will be provided. Kit fee: \$18.00.

**How Do I Make a Pattern from That? Enlarging, Scaling and Grading Patterns** - *Maggie Halberg*. Want more garment options but don't know where to look for patterns? Many books and museum websites include small scale patterns drawn from original garments, but it can be intimidating to know how to use them. This workshop will cover the proper techniques and tips needed to take those patterns from tiny drawings on a page to full size patterns. Learn how to enlarge or scale up a pattern from gridded or scaled drawings and grade them to the size of the wearer. A kit including a workbook on CD, all required paper and copies of patterns will be provided. Kit fee: \$8.00

**Where Did You Find That?! Discovering Sources in Unexpected Locations** - *Carolann Schmitt*. Finding sources can be a blessing and a curse for both novice and veteran participants in living history activities. Uncovering new information is exciting and keeps our interests alive. Searching without results is discouraging and demoralizing. We'll begin by looking at sources of information: how to look at established sources differently, gain access to special collections and obscure museums, find and use experts. We'll then move on to sources for reproduction items or supplies needed to make reproductions - a guide to creative and cost effective shopping for the living history participant. Learn how to shop for dressmaking and millinery supplies at the hardware, sporting goods and electronics stores, how to find unusual items in mail order catalogs, the best on-line sources. Students will receive an extensive handout with guidelines, sources, links and suggestions for broadening your research methodology.



**Hidden in Plain Sight: Details of Men's Clothing Construction** - *Brian Koenig*. Padded? Quilted? Interlined? Felled seam or selvage? Bias or straight grain? What details lay hidden in plain sight or between the seams? The illustration presentation will be interspersed with examination of original garments. Survey textiles, techniques, findings, repairs and alterations. Discover what they used for lining, batting, interlining. Marvel over seams and buttonholes. Learn how removable padding was removed. Discover period shortcuts! This is a chance to dig deeper into garments, and discover what holds them together and gives them their shape.

**Civil War Dancing** - *Norma Calhoun and Wayne Belt*. Come learn the fundamentals of mid-Victorian era dancing so you can join the fun at the next period dance or ball. We will focus on selected group dances that commonly appear on dance cards of the era, including reels, Sicilian circle dances and quadrilles. By the end of this workshop, participants will be familiar with the vocabulary and fundamentals of several dances and know how to join formations on the dance floor for the various types of dances. Previous dance experience is not required. Comfortable shoes with flexible soles (preferably leather) are recommended.

**Gettysburg Walking Tour** - *Joe Mieczkowski*. Join Licensed Town Guide Joe Mieczkowski for a walking tour of downtown Gettysburg. This year's tours will focus on the street fighting in downtown Gettysburg and its impact on the civilian population. Tour length: 90 minutes, with time for questions and discussion afterward. In case of inclement weather, an 'indoor' tour will be provided. Participants must provide their own transportation to and from Gettysburg. **All proceeds from this tour will benefit local historic organizations.**

*Save the Date!*  
**19th Conference - Feb 28-Mar 3, 2013**  
**20th Conference - March 6-9, 2014**





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## PRESENTATIONS Combined Sessions

**Senator and Mrs. Golladay Visit the Army - Nicky Hughes.** This latest chapter in the ongoing Golladay saga will get right to the heart of modern-day Civil War civilian reenacting by showing how civilians can cohabit with the military in a way that is historically accurate, personally comfortable, reasonably affordable, transportable, and enjoyable for all concerned. Viewers of this presentation will see demonstrations of accurate tent erection; onsite construction of practical field furniture; and of generally turning an empty canvas shell into a presentable, if quite modest, Victorian parlor with boudoir. All aspects of the presentation will be supported by photographs and other images as well as original artifacts and period written accounts. Advice will be given on obtaining housewares, textiles, bedding, toiletries, and other supplies needed for endeavors such as this. The result will be a temporary habitation well suited to the needs of either a fine lady or a military officer of refined gentility.

**The Omohundros of Richmond: A Slave Owning and Enslaved Family - Emmanuel Dabney.** Interracial relationships among slaves and whites have captivated attention of the public from the historic period into the modern day. Typically, white slaveholding men forced a sexual relationship with enslaved women. Conference attendees, however, will hear a very different and fascinating story in this presentation. Silas Omohundro was a white slave trader in antebellum and Civil War Richmond. His wife, Corinna and the children she had with Silas were legally his human property. Information about the Omohundros' family and material life will be juxtaposed against the lives of enslaved people caught in the exchange of money for bodies, domestic service, and farm labor as they solidified this family's status.

**So You Want to be a Farmer (or a Farmer's Wife): The Agricultural Revolution and Its Impact on Everyday Life in the 1860s Susan Hughes.** Just as the Industrial Revolution changed the everyday lives of civilians in the mid-1800s, so, too, a revolution in agriculture and, in particular, food sources, changed the way that people of the time period farmed, cultivated, prepared, preserved and ate. This presentation will look at the changing nature of agriculture throughout the first half of the 19th century. If your first person impression is that of a farmer, or farmer's wife - you should know the breed of sheep or cattle that you raise, and how changes in agriculture are going to affect you in the future.

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**The Ordeal of the Civilians of Gettysburg, and What We Can Learn from Them - Joe Mieczkowski.** Most of us are very familiar with the military details of the Battle of Gettysburg. This presentation will focus on the lives and citizens of the town and the surrounding area before, during, and immediately after the battle. How did the citizens prepare in the days and weeks before the battle? What did they do to survive during the battle? What shortages did they endure in the day and weeks after the battle? We will look at the ordeal through the eyes of seven ordinary men and women who lived and worked in Gettysburg in the summer of 1863.

### Program A

**What's in a Name? An Attempt at Disambiguation and Taxonomy of Mid-Victorian Attire - K. Krewer.** Don't be frightened by the strange words in the title! This presentation will focus on an issue we have all encountered. Present-day reenactors and merchants use a wide variety of terms to describe their clothing and wares -- prairie dresses, camp dresses, work dresses, day dresses, visiting dresses, tea dresses, evening dresses, formal dresses, dinner dresses, opera dresses and ball gowns. How accurate are these classifications? Are these "reenactorisms" or actual period terms? Primary sources further cloud the issue when multiple publications use different terms to describe the same illustration or use the same term to describe different garments. No wonder we're confused! This discussion will compare modern and period terms for various types of garments and provide applicable examples of original dresses.

**Hemlock is a Natural Product: Health Care in Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century America - Patricia Grunwald.** Health care in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century was just beginning to come out of the heroic era; a time when it was believed illness was caused by bad humors that needed to be purged from the body by cupping, bloodletting, purging, sweating, and then supplementing the body with tonics to replace the bad toxins removed. Germ theory was not developed. Ether, developed in the 1850s, allowed surgical procedures to be performed on a regular basis. However, since germ theory was not well understood many patients died from infectious complications. Our current system of emergency room triage, ambulance systems, and specialist referrals was born during the civil war era. Because of blockades and drug shortages (that we're seeing again today) reliance on herbal and folk remedies in the rural areas became the norm. Laws regulating medication production and validation of claims of cure had not been written yet. Antibiotics did not exist. This presentation will discuss the state of healthcare at the beginning of the American civil war, innovations developed



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during the war, and lasting discoveries still used today.



**From Moths to Fashion: Metamorphosis of the American Silk Industry - Beth Chamberlain.** From the earliest days of the continent's settling some saw visions of a new land where silk worms would thrive. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century entrepreneurs began experimentation in earnest. There were successes and failures and fortunes were both made and lost. In 1857 Godey's *Lady's Book* noted "*In the Crystal Palace of New York, there were exhibited specimens of raw silk, sewing silk, gimp, fringes, and tassels of an excellent quality from the manufactories of Mr. Royle and Mr. Crossley, in Paterson, New Jersey. A great number of hands are employed; and their business is rapidly extending.*" Women wishing a fashionable wardrobe had a wide variety of silks available to them, both affordable and costly. We'll take a look at the fabrics they used as well as the modern fabrics available to us.

**Merciful Heavens, It's Hot! How to Stay Cool at Warm Weather Events - Carolann Schmitt.** Living history in the summertime: it's hot, it's humid, and there is no air-conditioning. How can present day participants stay cool and comfortable while maintaining historic accuracy? This presentation will discuss how mid-nineteenth century citizens continued their daily activities during warm weather, and how we can use or adapt many of their practices to stay cool and comfortable. We will discuss summer apparel, alterations to surroundings, re-scheduling daily tasks, summer menus, changing behaviors and other options to mitigate the effects of hot weather.

### Program B

**Chapeaux for the Common Man: A Study of Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century Men's Hats, How They Were Worn, and Who Wore Them - Jon Isaacson.** In current American culture, hat wearing as a whole has become an increasingly rare occurrence. In earlier eras it was *de rigueur* for men to wear a hat or head covering of some sort. Hats tend to be a focal point of one's attire as the facial and head area is generally the first observed by others. They provide a framework or enhancement to the wearer's appearance which can either positively or negatively affect the observers' opinion of the wearer. While the old adage of "you can't judge a book by its cover" might ring true; equally true could be the credo that "a man CAN be judged by his hat." A man's hat could express many aspects of his persona, from his occupation, to his personal habits, his mood, or in some cases, his general personality. In this study we will explore the dizzying variety of hats and caps worn by average males in mid-19<sup>th</sup> century America. Focus will be on styles, materials, how they were

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worn, and why they were worn. We will discuss top hats, broad brimmed hats, caps, straw hats, and occupational specific hats. Through the agency of period photographs, artwork, and documents, along with photos of surviving originals, we will examine men's headwear with the aim of giving a better understanding to the important role that headwear played in the early American male's wardrobe.

**The Mills of New England, or: Where Stuff Came From - Andrew Peterson.** The mills in New England were centered on the rivers to take advantage of the reliable and predictable water supply. This development transformed these areas of New England from an agrarian and fishing economy to manufacturing. New manufacturing processes were developed unique to New England, such as the "Waltham System" for mill design. New products became available at a much lower cost in a greater variety than ever before, to a population who had new found wealth. Manufacturing required a highly skilled labor force, giving rise to many educational institutions. Worcester, Massachusetts became a center for tool and die manufacturing and much of the Connecticut Valley became a center for precision machinery. In dollar value, the textile industry, including cotton, wool, silk and blends, was king until the War Between the States had a disastrous effect on many of the textile mills. The Industrial Revolution in the United States had a profound effect on the lives and economy of the whole country. This presentation examines how the mills in New England influenced American lives and the

**The Army Sutler - Shyster or Shrewd Businessman? We Report, You Decide - Phillip Whiteman.** We all know of the field merchants who called themselves 'sutlers' at re-enactments. These field merchants are in business to make money. Some are good and others are questionable in the products they sell. Yet we support them and keep them in business because they sell things we cannot easily find elsewhere. Civil War era sutlers were civilian contractors who sold provisions to the soldiers they couldn't get elsewhere. Some sutlers sold goods at a fair price and of good quality. Many sutlers did not. These businessmen were under restrictions from the governments (Federal and Confederate) as well restrictions from the officers of the regiment they sold to. The risks were high, however the reward (i.e. profit) was greater. Most sutlers did make a large amount of money by selling goods at an extremely high price to the soldiers. In this presentation we will look at the history of the sutler, what products he sold, how he conducted business, where he conducted business and whether the bad reputation most historians have placed on the sutler is warranted.

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