



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

### INSTRUCTIONS

Those who cannot attend or speak at the public input hearings may submit written comments for inclusion in the evidentiary record that will have a weight equal to testimony presented in person. The comment-submission form is found on the following pages of this document.

People who submit written comments will have until June 2, 2006, to send their comments by mail to the Gaming Control Board for inclusion in the evidentiary record.

The mailing address for written comments is:

Office of the Clerk  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
PO Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Debra Hess

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: Baptist

Employer: yes solutions

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

gambling is not a good thing. families ~~break~~ <sup>break up</sup> of money ~~be~~ <sup>lost</sup> it gets to be addictive, men and women to put that 1<sup>st</sup> before pay<sup>ing</sup> their own bills. Thinking or hoping they will win alot of money and don't they lose their homes family's etc. or they do win alot and let it go to their heads and buy very expensive things only to ~~lose~~ <sup>lose</sup> debt again and lose it all.

Bringing gambling to Gettysburg is also wrong to do because it attracts wrong crowds of people, more drugs even lead to violence or killing to those who have a serious problem in controlling themselves, they are not satisfied with what they have they want to go for more. and will do anything to get it. Most important gambling is a sin it's spending your money foolishly and out of control. money is the root of all evil unless you know how to control it and not the money controlling you.

I, Debra Hess

verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Debra Hess



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Johanna Rohnke

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: Missionary Bible Baptist Church

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I do not think we should allow the gambling cas into Gettysburg for several reasons:

— It is an addiction just as doing drugs + dr alcohol.

— Unnecessary increased traffic.

— ~~Gettysburg~~ Gettysburg is a historical sight and a place where families can go on daytrips or vacations. Commercialism goes along w/ casinos + will destroy

— Increase in violence (including suicide) due to tempers flaring, alcohol consumption, greed!

— money that should be used to support the family or take care of senior citizens <sup>is</sup> gambled away in of gaining more, only to lose it.

— children + spouses suffer loss - financially loss of leadership in home, loss of any stability, loss of protection.

— I see no good coming from a casino in Gettysburg or anywhere for that matter

I, Johanna M. Rohne verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Johanna M. Rohne





**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Dona Starb

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*Bettysburg is a historical town*

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

so that we in their future, <sup>might</sup> ~~could~~ be  
in peace and harmony.

We have many schools and young people  
visiting Gettysburg for their education.

We don't wish to teach them to try  
and live on gambling and depending on luck.  
That's a waste of time and money.

Our most <sup>Applicable,</sup> ~~God~~ given right, is the right  
to work. valuable

Gambling teaches the young and old to  
take from others. They believe it's  
fair, when it's fun and games, and another  
person's hard earned money.

We know what Nevada is known for  
through out America, gambling casinos  
Atlantic City the same.

We don't want our history and the  
seriousness of the war, to be smeared  
with the foolishness of gambling and  
a bunch of fools, who love to drink, c  
smoke, yell and sit and waste their  
precious time. There are better places  
for this casino. Put it in the desert.

I, Donna Staub verify that the information contained in this written  
comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Donna Staub



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: MARtha A. Fowble

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*I think it would be a destruction  
to get the... H... 1*

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, Martha A. Fowler certify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Martha A. Fowler



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:

Deborah Truitt-Cassidy

Address

Telephone

Organization, if any:

C.W.P.T.

Employer:

Hanover Hosp

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Thank you for the opportunity to present my concerns about the possibility of Casinos in Gettysburg. I'm very much against this plan of bringing the Casino to Gettysburg.  
① Gambling is harmful to not just the individuals that have a problem with gambling but their families and our community in many ways and over the years this trend

SAVING CO. OF NEW YORK  
CORPORATION

EXHIBITARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS  
WRITTEN COMMENTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE

The following comments were made by the public at the public hearing held on the 12th day of June, 1978, at the headquarters of the Planning Council Board Room to provide input for the

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Comments are recorded here if more space is required)

of activity arrives to a community crime  
of all kinds increases. The people want  
this say they will be bringing more  
money to the area to be able to increase  
the number of police. If crime does  
not increase this won't be necessary.  
Drug & gambling addiction goes up more  
rehab's will be needed. Families suffer.  
People, children especially suffer.  
This says nothing about the fact that  
this area is a historic area, even  
where the Caseno's would be built.  
People, families & many local people  
come here because people fought and  
died so we could have our freedoms.  
The increased people to the area will take  
away from this. People say "more jobs  
they are the women jobs from out of town"

I, Deborah Truitt Cassidy

verify that the information contained in this written  
comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Deborah Truitt Cassidy

not especially for our community.  
7th  
... already as far



want to make living here even  
harder? This will not improve  
life in PA but bring it down  
What is our goal? To put  
money in the hands of the owner  
planners or to improve our life  
in Pa?



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slots operators:

Name: Linda P. Clapsaddle

Address

Telephone

Organization, if any

Employer: Herff-Jones Yearbooks, Gettysburg, Pa

COMMENTS: (Please use reverse side if more space is required)

My name is Linda P. Clapsaddle and I live in Adams Co. close to Gettysburg, Pa.

I am writing these comments to plead with you, the gaming Board to vote against having a Casino in or around the Gettysburg area.

Gettysburg is NOT a Casino town. Gettysburg is rooted in history, surrounded by dairy and fruit farms. Gettysburg is a small town where hard working people live and raise families. Gettysburg is a place where many young people come to get a College degree or a Christian Education. Gettysburg is a place where thousands of people like to come for vacations. Gettysburg is not a night-life, neon lights kind of town. Gettysburg is not a casino town. Building a Casino would bring destruction to a beautiful town and the community.

No longer would Gettysburg be known as a great place to vacation because who would want to bring small children and teens to a Night-life, neon lights crime filled town.

No longer would parents want to send their High School graduates to Gettysburg college. College tuition in itself is very costly, plus books, gas, credit card dept., etc. Why would

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

the parents want to add the cost of a gambling addiction or the cost of nightly entertainment possibly leading to drinking and driving?

No longer would young men and women choose to come to The Gettysburg Seminary for a Christian Education for Ministering or Counseling, etc. Who would want to come to a gambling town to get a Godly Education?

Maybe none of these things matter to you or even bother you, but it does to me and to a whole lot of other people living in the Gettysburg area. Please Please vote OUT a Casino for the Gettysburg Area.

The number one reason why a Casino should not come to Gettysburg is because Casino's house gambling and gambling is Exploiting! That is taking advantage of someone who does not have money or self-control, getting him or her a little drunk and letting him or her think they are having fun, all the while taking their hard earned money, money that is needed to pay the bills and feed the family. The Rich get richer and the poor get poorer. THAT IS WRONG!! Marriages will break up, bills will mount up, and children will lose a stable home and future.

In closing let me say "If a Casino comes to Gettysburg it will be because money talks and we do not have a say in it. I've been to the hearings and I've heard what the people have said. I've heard the people 25 to 5 speak out against a Casino. I pray that you have been listening and that you also have heard the people. Thank You

I, Linda verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Linda P. Clapsaddle

**View f:\emailobj\200604\1\410115100a.txt**

From: Web forms <webforms@heoc-www6.house.gov>  
Date: 4/10/2006 11:36:46 AM  
To: imapa05@mail.house.gov  
Subject:

---

Dear Sir,

I was just reading about the possibility of a casino being built near the Gettysburg National Military Park. When I first read this it gave me a sick feeling in the pit of my stomach. This is some of the most sacred and hallowed ground in the United States. As I toured this Battle Ground and thought about everything that was sacrificed there with all the lives lost and what it meant to the future of this nation it brought tears to my eyes. This is a place where we go to pay tribute to all the lives lost and what they fought for. Not a place where people should go to toss their money in a slot machine and hope to leave a winner.

---

Thank you for your time and I hope there is something you can do to change their minds.

D. Thomas Hughes

==== Original Formatted Message Starts Here ====

Subject:

<APP>CUSTOM  
<PREFIX>Mr.</PREFIX>  
<FIRST>Donald</FIRST>  
<MIDDLE>T</MIDDLE>  
<LAST>Hughes</LAST>  
<SUFFIX> </SUFFIX>  
<ADDR1>445 Bolivar Dr. </ADDR1>  
<ADDR2><ADDR2>  
<CITY>Bradford</CITY>  
<STATE>PA</STATE>  
<ZIP>16701</ZIP>  
<EMAIL>thughes90@atlanticbb.net</EMAIL>  
<PHONE></PHONE>  
<ISSUE>MISC</ISSUE>  
<SUBJECT>MISC</SUBJECT>  
<MSG>Dear Sir,

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Thank you for your time and I hope there is something you can do to change their minds.

D. Thomas Hughes</MSG>  
</APP>

---

Reply directly to  
PA <sup>STATE</sup> Gaming Board

PA Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17109



## PA. Gaming Control Board

"Four score and seven years ago," is the beginning of a brilliant speech from a brilliant mind; first spoken not too far from here.

"The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." We have not forgotten what was said here, but I fear at least some of us have forgotten what was done here.

I was born at Gettysburg in 1950. Growing up and going to school here gave me a very unique perspective.

When we studied the Civil War, we looked out the windows and saw the battlefield.

When we studied about Abraham Lincoln and his internationally known address, it was first spoken at Gettysburg, only a few blocks from the Jr. High School.

At the time, The President of The United States was Dwight Eisenhower, his farm was at Gettysburg and his granddaughter was attending one of the Gettysburg Schools. In 1928 President Calvin Coolidge was in Gettysburg.



In 1938 President Roosevelt came to Gettysburg to dedicate the Peace Light Memorial. In 1963 Colonel Jacob M. Sheads conducted a battlefield tour for President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy. All of this is what makes Gettysburg so special.

It has been said that the proposed Casino is far enough from the battlefield not to affect it. This ignores Hunterstown, approximately 4.5 miles north east of Gettysburg. 2 miles east of the proposed Casino is the location where newly commissioned General George A. Custer commanded and fought on July 2nd. The next day he commanded and fought at East Calvary Field. If you plot Gettysburg, Hunterstown and East Calvary Field on a map, the proposed Casino would be in the middle of the triangle.

Chance Enterprises traffic study says there will be an average of 14,767 trips per day to the Casino and conclude "there will be no adverse effect to traffic." 14,767 trips in equals 14,767 trips out. The current ADT for Rt 30 is approx. 14,300. The Casino will triple the traffic on Rt. 30.



Add to this The Gateway complex and 7,750 proposed homes in Straban Twp. and the phrase grid lock comes to mind.

Some have commented about Motels, Restaurants and Souvenir Shops near the battlefield. Since the 1960's the Park Service has bought back some very successful businesses, sometimes at great expense, only to turn the property back to 1863 appearances. Fantasyland, Stuckey's, The Peace Light Inn, The National Tower are some that come to mind. Currently the old Ford Garage is being dismantled. Mistakes of the past should not be used to justify a mistake of the future.

Some have commented that the zoning of Straban Twp. allows this Casino proposal. The PA. Gaming Board has already overruled local zoning, as a means to keep a Casino out. How can you then turn around and use zoning to put one in?

Some have commented about jobs, taxes and income. This Casino could be built in another location and all of the above would still exist.

Chance Enterprises biggest mistake is Location, Location, Location. This location is fine for someone from Maryland or D.C. but it is absolutely horrible for those of us that live here. When Maryland allows slots it will nullify the location advantage for Maryland and D.C. residents but anyone living northeast of the Casino will still have to fight Rt. 30 traffic to go to stores and businesses in the Gettysburg area. To us it is an In Your Face Proposal.

A fundamental question is who should determine what kind of community we live in? Should people living here, or the people visiting here decide what exists in our community?

"It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced." My friends and neighbors and I are dedicated to the unfinished work that exist, but is the Pa. Gaming Board?

Let Las Vegas be Las Vegas and Gettysburg be Gettysburg and hope the two shall not meet.

No Casino in Our  
Wrong Location

Frank Thomas

March 20, 2006

Pa Gaming Control Board  
Harrisburg, Pa 17106  
Director of Communications

Dear Mr Nays,

I regret I am unable to attend the public forum on gaming facilities sites. This letter is to protest any gaming facility in Adams County or the Gettysburg area.

As a descendent of Civil War soldiers who fought there it angers me to have this site considered. This "sacred" ground should remain a respected historical location.

What is the public benefit to gambling? I would like to see the issue repealed. In states where gaming has been established there has been no large economic benefit to ordinary citizens. Gaming has thrown open the door to political corruption.

I want more than lip-service from

representatives and will hold Governor Rendell,  
Senator Sean Logan and Representative Joseph  
Markasek responsible if they permit the  
Gettysburg area to be desecrated by  
a gambling facility.

Please give this letter careful  
consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Joseph Churchfield Pavlik

5/24/06

Dear Members of the Gaming Control Board,

Do not allow a casino/slots parlor at the request of the proposed Crossroads Gaming Resort and Spa in Gettysburg, PA. Do not allow a casino/slots parlor at any location in PA. A casino/slots parlor is extremely detrimental to any community for many reasons.

One prime reason is huge gambling debts. The Gettysburg Times newspaper reported this on Friday, May 19, 2006: "a former sportsmen's club treasurer was sentenced for stealing more than \$130,000 from his fellow members. He admitted taking the money to recoup gambling debts." He will go to prison and needs to sell his home.

Many more lives will be destroyed unless you vote NO CASINO/SLOTS PARLOR in Gettysburg, NO in PA.

I do not want our town (or state) to be responsible for the destruction a casino/slots parlor will bring: individual lives ruined, marriages ruined, families ruined, increased crime, increased suicide, increased imprisonment, increased debt, increased gambling addictions, more DUI arrests & deaths, increased homelessness, a burden on our small police force and volunteer services, a negative impact on our fruit farm-



ing industry, and a negative impact on our water supply, as well as a decrease in attendance at our college. Many visitors say they will not return if a casino/slots parlor comes to Gettysburg. Therefore many town businesses will be adversely affected.

Please vote NO to slots in Gettysburg, vote No in PA.

Sincerely,

Barbara Y. Wilkinson

# OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE MUST NOT BECOME AN AUCTION!

DEAR MR. DECKER,

FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, WE BEG OF YOU TO DENY THE GAMBLING APPLICATION OF "CHANCE ENTERPRISES, INC." FOR A CASINO AT GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK. THIS DECISION WILL SPEAK VOLUMES TO FUTURE GENERATIONS ABOUT THE PRIORITIES AND VALUES OF OUR GENERATION. THOSE YET BORN DESERVE THE GETTYSBURG WE HAVE ALL KNOWN AND HOLD A DEEP REVERENCE FOR. THE TRUE VALUE OF GETTYSBURG LIES IN THE HISTORY IT REPRESENTS TO OUR COLLECTIVE PASTS.

IN NO WAY IMAGINABLE DOES A CASINO FIT INTO THIS MOST SACRED AND HALLOWED OF LANDSCAPES. THESE "HONORED DEAD" DESERVE TO "FOREVER REST IN PEACE." YOUR REFUSAL OF A CASINO, WILL BE AN ENDORSEMENT OF PRES. LINCOLN'S SOO ELOQUENTLY STATED VISION OF AMERICA'S PROMISE. "THAT GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH."

THIS IS A PLACE OF IRREPLACEABLE HISTORY, WHICH BELONGS TO ALL THE CITIZENS OF THESE UNITED STATES, NOT JUST TO A GROUP OF GREEDY SPECULATORS. THERE ARE MANY OTHER PLACES AROUND THE STATE MORE SUITABLE FOR A CASINO. GETTYSBURG WOULD BE DEVASTATED AND LOSE ITS SOMBER SIGNIFICANCE. THIS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO OCCUR! WE THE UNDERSIGNED EMPLOY YOU TO READ PRES. LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG ADDRESS, BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR DECISION(S).

RESPECTFULLY,

C.W.P.T. #263568 OSWEN

Wayne C. Taylor - WAYNE C. TAYLOR



DEAR SUSAN,

JUST A THOUGHT: MY LOCAL CABLE PROVIDER (SERVICE ELECTRICAL CABLE TV)  
A "PUBLIC SERVICE BULLETIN BOARD" CHANNEL FOR A NOMINAL CHARGE  
PERHAPS, A SIMILAR SERVICE IS AVAILABLE IN HARRISBURG, GETTYSBURG,  
ETC.

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND A CHECK TO COVER SAME, OR TO USE AS MOST  
CRITICAL TO "SAVE GETTYSBURG!"

I HAVE SENT COPIES OF THE "NO CASINO GETTYSBURG!" TO "THE  
NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOC." - "NATURE CONSERVANCY @  
CONSHOHOCKEN" - "NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION" AND  
"THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LANDS."

I'M WELL ON MY WAY TO FOLDING THE BACK OF THIS LETTER TO  
MR. DECKER W/ CO-SPONSORS.

HAS THE LOCAL BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU AND TOURISM COMMISSION  
OF ADAMS COUNTY WEIGHTED IN ON THIS ISSUE?

IN BETHLEHEM, WE ALSO ARE BEING SUBJECTED TO A CASINO  
PROJECT "BETH WORKS" @ THE OLD BETHLEHEM STEEL PLANT. MY  
ENERGY AND TIME IS SOMEWHAT LIMITED, OF THE SIGNATURES  
GATHERED NOBODY I REPEAT NOBODY WAS AWARE OF THE  
PROPOSED CASINO AT GETTYSBURG. ONCE INFORMED EVERYBODY  
WAS OUTRAGED!

RESPECTFULLY,

Wayne C. Taylor.

## Letter To The Editor

This letter is to the people of Gettysburg and Adams County. My husband ALAN and I have been coming to this area for the last 9-10 years. We love the Atmosphere and Ambience we feel when we are here. We have made many good friends thru the

This trip however has been different, there is a tension in the air that feels very familiar to us. You see we live in Lawrenceburg, Indiana and about 8 years ago our small hometown went thru exactly what you are going through now. Should we allow a casino to come in? We were told our taxes would lower, more jobs, more business for the whole area. We were told it would do good things for our area period. Well it was voted in and allow me to tell you the "good things" that have happened to our beautiful small town. Our taxes have ~~increased~~ <sup>increased</sup>, DUI's are up, more crime, more divorces, more bankrupt <sup>more</sup> businesses have went under and lots more traffic. (You think there's a lot of

more suicides

to watch out for drunks coming out of the casino. This happens EVERY morning. He drives 35 miles each way. IN the early evening coming home after a long day at work it takes 35-45 minutes to drive the last 5 miles to home. Again this is EVERY day because of the casino traffic.

We do have to say we did get new sewer lines (the old ones could not handle the increase) and new water meters.

We also got a 1 million dollar clock that was put in the area where all the local business' went under and now is mostly vacant. We CAN'T forget to mention the new business' that have come in, PA Shops, Strip Club, Check Advance Stores.

Yes the casino has brought more to our area. The visions ~~planted~~ that have been planted are far from the reality that you will see. As much as we love this area we probably will not return if the casino comes in. How many more people will feel the same and not return. Please think long and hard before you allow the historic

# CHANG AND THE

SINCE THE FIRST CLASH OF ARMIES, GAMBLING AND W





# THE CIVIL WAR WAR HAVE BEEN UNEASY BEDFELLOWS

**FROM THE MOMENT** the first shots were fired in 1861, gambling and the Civil War embarked on a volatile relationship. Strategic and tactical gambles became commonplace for Civil War commanders. Soldiers gambled with their lives every time they set foot on the battlefield. Secession and the opposing governments' decisions to contest it by force were gambles that would claim over 650,000 lives before they were finally settled.



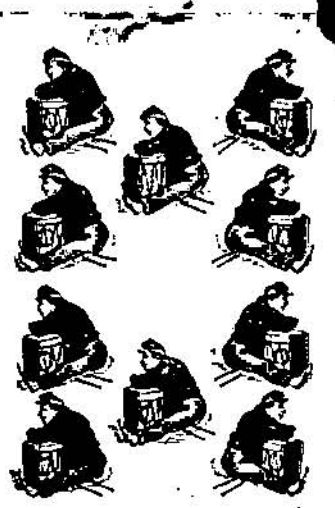
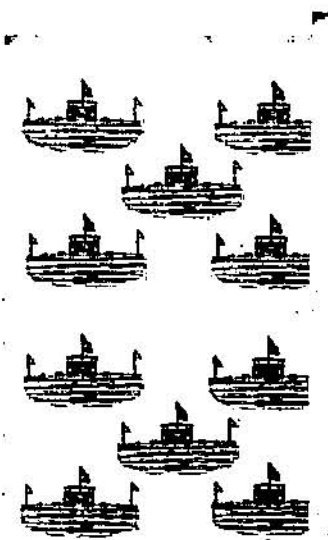
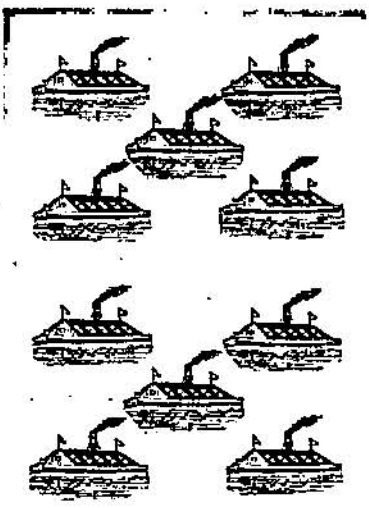
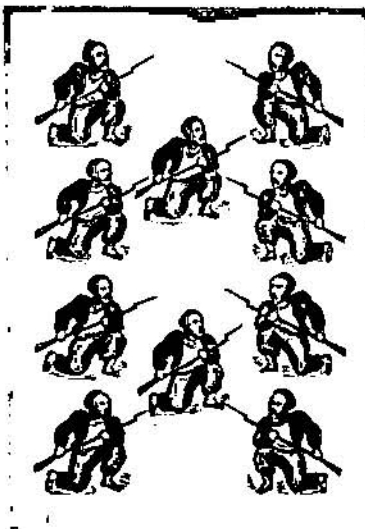
J. Mayer & Co.'s 1864 illustration *The Interrupted Game* depicts an unwelcome visitor to a Union card game in the trenches before Petersburg. It also reflects a prevailing opinion among clergymen, civilians and others, most of whom did not have to face the tedium of camp life, that gambling and warfare were not a good mix (©Bettmann/Corbis).

Gambling in its more traditional forms represented a darker side of the soldiers' and sailors' everyday lives. The war's many terrifying battles were shock points, but the tedium and monotony of camp life in many ways dominated the typical combatant's experience. Card games, horse races and virtually anything else that could be wagered on were popular methods of relieving boredom in every army, Northern and Southern.

Most states had passed antigambling statutes before the Civil War due to widespread corruption in state-chartered lotteries. In 1860 only Delaware, Kentucky and Missouri allowed lotteries. In addition laws were passed in most states, including the wild west of California, that made it illegal to gamble against a bank or a house. Although lotteries and house gambling were banned, horse racing and gambling in private clubs were still allowed.

Even though soldiers on both sides believed they were fighting for the good and moral cause of either defending their homes and property or preserving the Union, many Federals and Confederates quickly discarded their morals when they took off their civilian clothes and donned their new blue or gray uniforms. Union Private Delos W. Lake warned his brother who was about to enlist that "The army is the worst place in the world to learn bad habits of all kinds. there is several men in this Regt when they enlisted they were nice respectable men and belonged to the Church of God, but now where are they? They are ruined men." At the end of 1863, T.C. Holliday of Mississippi also warned his brother who was enlisting: "The temptations that will beset you will

## BY KEITH MILLER



be very great...of all the evil practices in Camp, gambling is the most pernicious and fraught with the most direful consequences." Gambling, along with profanity, drunkenness and whoring, swept through the armies as the men left the influences of family and community at home.

Adam Rader of the 28th Virginia was appalled by "the most onerest men...I

ever saw, and the most swearing and card playing and fitin and drunkenness." Musician Henry E. Shafer of the 103rd Illinois had the same reaction, observing: "It looks to me as though some men try to see how depraved they can be. Gambling, Card Playing, Profanity, Sabbath Breaking &c are among the

many vices practiced by many of the men."

But despite this intolerance, gambling was prevalent. Some soldiers and sailors would bet on anything: horse races, cock-

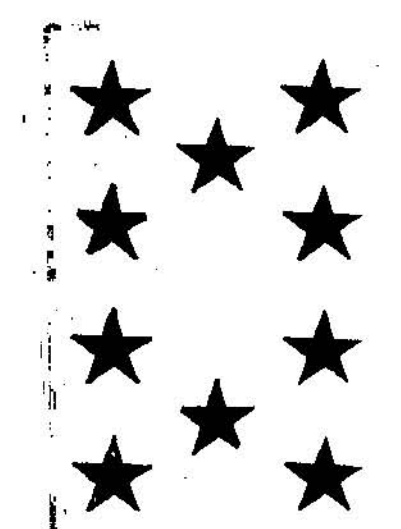
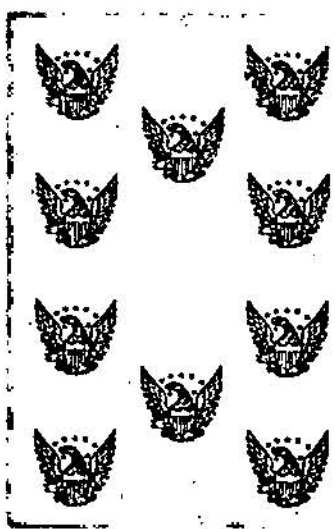
Raffles were popular for blockaded Southerners, who faced stretched budgets. As one Confederate noted near Yorktown in December 1861, there was "raffling of any and everything—watches, gold pins, coats and blankets. You can hear on every

## Men left the influences of family and com

fight, athletic competitions and boxing and wrestling matches. Although horse racing was popular, it was particularly frowned upon, as it ran the risk of ruining good horses. Soldiers beset by lice threw their tormentors on blankets and pitted them against one another in races fueled by wagering.

side someone saying, 'Do you want to take a chance for a watch?' or something else."

In addition to wagering on races and competitions, the men in blue and gray also amused themselves with dice. A blanket thrown on the ground and a pair of six-



"Throwing the paper" (i.e., playing cards) was the most popular form of gambling during the war (opposite). Manufacturers made a fortune churning out cards decorated with everything from patriotic symbols to famous wartime personalities (Above and Top: Time Life Pictures/Getty Images; Opposite: Library of Congress).

sided cubes was all that was needed to establish a craps parlor.

But the most popular form of gambling was "throwing the paper," or card games. Playing cards were produced in the North as well as Europe during the war, and manufacturers made a fortune. English cards, which were brought in on blockade runners, carried patriotic Southern designs. Cards North and South would have stars, flags, shields and eagles replacing spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs. Presidents Lincoln and Davis, their generals and other notables were often represented in the designs.

Poker, 21, faro and euchre brought forth wagers from most troops, even those who had little idea of the rules or odds of winning or losing. In October 1864, one

IOUs on the Order of the Paymaster. Despite their meager pay, as Private Newton of the 14th Wisconsin observed while in the trenches outside of Vicksburg: "Since we were paid off a person cannot go five rods in any part of our camp without seeing someone gambling. The day after we were paid there were a good many of the boys to be found who had not a cent left of their two months pay." Southerners, whose pay was infrequent and as the war went on increasingly worthless, gambled for pocketknives, jewelry, clothing and rations.

Some Southerners would even play for their lives. During the Second Manassas campaign, Allen C. Redwood of the 55th Virginia fell in with the 6th Louisiana, a unit dominated by immigrants (most of them Irish) who had made New Orleans their home. They had proved their valor to Maj. Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson during the Shenandoah Valley campaign and had lost their colonel in an impetuous charge at Gaines' Mill. As Redwood settled in, he marveled at the "congress of nations only the cosmopolitan Crescent City could have sent forth, and the tongues of Babel seemed resurrected in speech; English, German, French, Spanish, all were represented, to say nothing of Doric brogue and local 'gumbo.'" The Louisianans, as Redwood observed, "burned little powder that day," spending

most of August 29, 1862, countermarching and supporting a section of Wilfred Cutshaw's battery. He noted further: "The tedium of this last service my companions relieved by games of 'seven up,' with a greasy, well thumbed deck, and in smoking cigarettes, rolled with great dexterity, between the deals. Once, when a detail was ordered to go some distance under fire to fill the canteens of the company, a hand was dealt to determine who should go, and the decision was accepted by the loser without demur." Redwood did not record the outcome of the detail.

Although most lost their pay, a few lucky or skilled players, not to mention some cheats, became rich. C.W. Bardeen joined the Union cause as a fifer when he was just 15. He quickly became so skilled at cards that none of his comrades would play against him. On August 22, 1863, after getting paid he sat down to a week of gambling during which he won several hundred dollars playing bluff. He sent over a hundred dollars home, bought a watch for \$25 and took a trip into New York, where he had his picture taken, went to the opera and saw the sights. Despite his continued success throughout 1863, the teenager's conscience bothered him. On December 31, after a year in the Army, he recorded: "I bear witness to its [the Army's] contaminating effects. Many an evil habit has sprung up in me

## munity at home.

Union soldier noted that "nine out of ten play cards for money." Virginian Alexander Hunter believed five of six soldiers played cards. He wrote: "Some soldiers gambled day and night; draw poker of course being the game. When out of money, a man stayed in the game by resorting to the use of 'O.P.s'" These were





since Jan. 1st 1863. God grant that the year in which we now have entered may not be so." By February, Bardeen had begun attending church services, and gave up alcohol and gambling.

Ministers sent into the field to tend to the souls, character and moral fiber of the soldiers would frequently preach against the sins of gambling. They often carried tracts with them like *Pitching the Tent Toward Sodom*, which warned of gambling's dangers.

The *Gambler's Balance Sheet* compared the pros and cons of gambling. The gains were described as "lewd and base companions, idleness and dissipation; poverty; and mental anguish." The losses were described as "time; money—which ought to be sent home to your wife and babies, or to an aged father or a widowed mother; feeling—a young man in New York not many years ago played cards on his brother's coffin; love of truth—the gambler will try to cover up his loss by a falsehood; self-respect; character—your friends will disown you, your mother will be ashamed of you, your sisters will blush when your name is mentioned; happiness, and soul." On balance, the author suggested that gamblers would receive nothing

but "ETERNAL MISERY."

Often such sermons fell on few ears. One Sunday the colonel of the 7th Wisconsin, finding the regiment's church service poorly attended, sent a note to the adjutant saying: "There is a large crowd of soldiers in the grove below, engaged in the interesting game called chuck-a-luck. My chaplain is running his church on the other side of me, but the chuck-a-luck has the largest crowd. I think this is unfair, as the church runs only once a week but the game goes on daily. I suggest that one or the other of the parties be dispersed." And of course not all men of the cloth set a good example, as a company of the 2nd Connecticut Heavy Artillery found when a cleric entered their stud-poker game one evening and proceeded to take all their money.

Although many soldiers played games of chance, most believed it was sinful. The approach of battle caused many a gambler to empty his haversack of cards and dice and open his Bible to ensure that if he should die on the field that day such sinful tools would not be found on his person. For some the repentance lasted no longer than the battle, and when it was over they would return to the fields or woods and, as one observer noted, "gather

up the cards until they had a full deck." The moral ramifications of gambling often seemed to carry more weight with the soldiers than the fact that it was forbidden by Army regulations.

Through the fall and winter of 1861 Southern municipal governments ordered gambling houses to be closed. As the *New Orleans Commercial Bulletin* commented in January 1862, "The excitement among the sports, in consequence was exceedingly great, and all expressed astonishment at so sudden a move on the part of his Honor." These houses were closed partly in support of the military and in reaction to eligible men being in gambling houses as opposed to the army. But such actions were always temporary.

Many proprietors of Southern gambling halls contributed generously to the Confederate Army in an effort to obtain public support, and also because their winnings provided funds for such charity. During the Peninsula campaign of 1862, members of the *faro* fraternity pledged "to contribute a liberal sum (\$20,000) for the purchase of any articles which may be needed for the sick or wounded soldiers." In November Richmond's "Knights of the *Faro Table*" contributed another \$5,000

Boxing was another popular outlet for wagering in Civil War camps. Officers often looked the other way, figuring that the matches were a good way to relieve boredom and settle disputes (Library of Congress).



for the support of the Army.

Such efforts failed to buy acceptance. In October 1863, Virginia passed laws to suppress all gambling. As the *Richmond Examiner* reported in February 1864: "The gambling halls of Richmond were closed because their extravagant suppers were exhausting the supplies of provisions. Men who should have frowned down such unreasonably hilarity were the very persons who encourage and support them. But we hope the sin has run its course, and that there will be no more of them."

The halls did not remain closed, as a refugee reported in September 1864: "Faro and Gambling Establishments...are numerous and are plying a brisk business. They are patronized by government officials who are said to squander away the public funds. A recent law against the keeping of these places subjects the proprietors to severe punishment. They have accordingly adopted the plan of dealing in iron marks so that they may not be recognized."

In addition to civilian efforts to check gambling, the military also tried to eradicate it. On November 14, 1862, General Robert E. Lee issued General Order No.

127, which read:

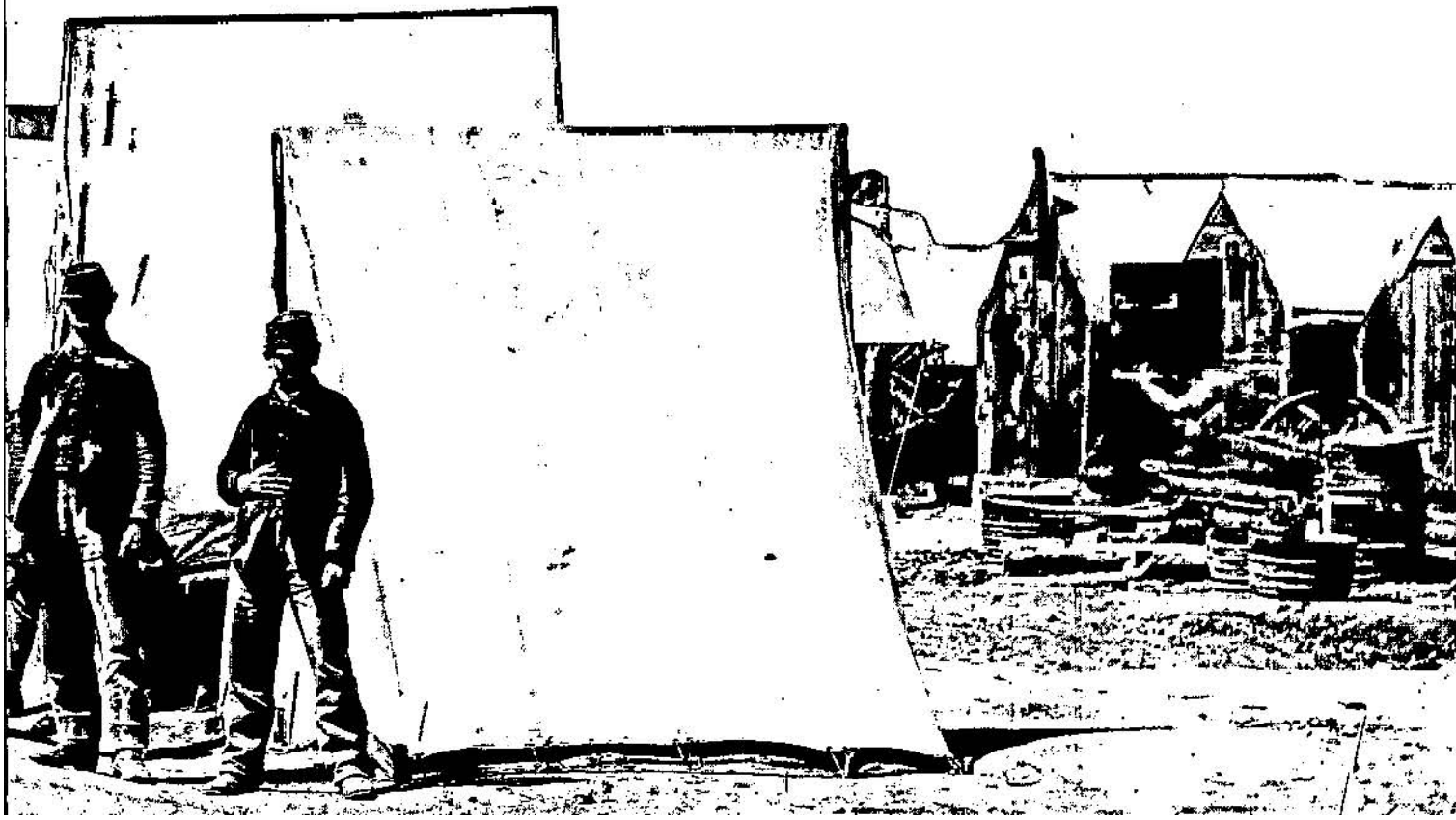
I. The general commanding is pained to learn that the vice of gambling exists, and is becoming common in this army. The regulations expressly prohibit one class of officers from indulging in this evil practice, and it was not supposed that a habit so pernicious and demoralizing would be found among men engaged in a cause, of all others, demanding the highest virtue and purest morality in its supporters. He regards it as wholly inconsistent with the character of a Southern soldier and subversive of good order and discipline in the army. All officers are earnestly enjoined to use every effort to suppress this vice, and the assistance of every soldier having the true interests of the army and of the country at heart is invoked to put an end to a practice which cannot fail to produce those deplorable results which have ever attended its indulgence in any society.

During the dreary winter of 1864, Federal General John C. Cleveland issued a directive: "Gambling within the limits of this division is prohibited. The attention of the brigade and regimental commanders is called to the suppression of this evil."

Of course the enforcement of these rules was complicated by the participation of officers in these games. When an officer was sent to break up an after-taps gambling party, he failed to follow orders when he found a fellow officer in the game. Throughout the war the command would be repeated that gambling had to be stamped out.

In addition to trying to stamp out gambling among their own troops, both sides struggled with eradicating games of chance between the two armies. In March 1863, Union Brig. Gen. Henry Lockwood complained that the Navy, which was responsible for patrolling the Potomac River and stopping the contraband trade, was failing in this task because naval officers were "going on shore every night and carousing and gambling with the 'Secesh'" engaged in blockade running. During the siege of Petersburg a Confederate officer found a large number of pickets missing because they had crossed over the lines to play cards with the Federals. Such fraternization created significant problems.

In an effort to eliminate fraternization, Federal forces attempted to close Southern civilian gambling institutions.



On July 3, 1863, Union Brig. Gen. William Emory issued an order in New Orleans that, in addition to limiting public gatherings only to church services and closing all bars by 9 p.m., stated, "All club rooms and gambling houses are hereby closed until further orders."

In January 1864, Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman approved the destruction of a Southerner's home in occupied Memphis, writing: "General Veatch was justified, as commander of a city in time of war, to destroy a gambling house, as it is the cause of crime and disorder. His right to destroy involves the minor right to fine and exact bond." Part of the problem was that Union soldiers would go into such gambling houses, get drunk and end up indebted to Southerners suspected of being "traitors, spies, smugglers, robbers and house burners."

Another serious problem with gambling was that some officers embezzled government funds to pay for their losses. In March 1862, Confederate Adjutant and Inspector General Samuel Cooper complained of "Captains getting drunk and gambling off commutation money" intended to pay for uniforms.

In reaction to embezzlements by Union dispersing officers in June 1865, after the end of the war, General Ulysses S. Grant ordered all gambling houses in both the

South and North that had entertained U.S. dispersing officers to be "broken up."

Despite efforts to stamp out gambling, it survived the war. In fact, in the 1880s the Gettysburg & Harrisburg Railroad completed a spur to the Round Tops south of Gettysburg to provide access to this part of the battlefield, which still lay in private hands. To entertain the multitude of day-trippers, refreshment, souvenir and photography stands were set up along with pavilions for dancing, a shooting gallery and a casino.

In the 1890s William H. Tipton, a Gettysburg entrepreneur, laid a trolley line from town to the Round Tops. New tourists coming to Gettysburg to escape the cities often visited Round Top Park, where they could dance, drink, gamble and not be bothered by the monuments or history. Enraged veterans had Tipton sued, and in 1896 the Supreme Court "affirmed...that the government could protect the shrine's primary function of civic instruction over other uses." In 1901 the War Department bought out Tipton's property.

Over the years gambling came and went, often exiting in a lottery or racing scandal. By 1910, Civil War veterans and their children joined other antigambling interests in successfully championing laws and state constitutional amendments that

banned most forms of gambling across the country. In 1931 one of the most depressed states in the Union, Nevada, approved many forms of gambling, including casino gambling, in an effort to bring some prosperity to the desert. In 1978 New Jersey passed a law allowing gambling in Atlantic City, another depressed community. For the next decade people watched the Atlantic City experiment.

Then in the 1990s legalized gambling exploded across the country to a point where it now exists in one form or another in almost every state, and many states now have legal casinos. In places like Vicksburg, Miss., this has put casinos close to Civil War sites.

In 2004 Pennsylvania passed a law authorizing slots casinos in 14 locations. Chance Enterprises is proposing to bring gambling back to the hallowed ground of Gettysburg, where it was last seen a century ago. Protests to this plan have emerged from the Civil War community, and the fight continues today. It is clear that even 141 years after the last shots were fired, the uneasy relationship between the Civil War and gambling lives on. **CWT**

*Keith Miller, who writes from Ridgefield, Conn., is a volunteer for the nonprofit "No Casino Gettysburg" organization.*



Cockfighting had deep roots in the American sporting tradition, particularly in the South. As the war dragged on, though, combatants became increasingly scarce (Library of Congress).