Note from the Editors

The Madison Historical Review is excited to present its readers with a new edition filled with exciting research and historical excellence. This year we had an extremely competitive pool of submissions to choose from and the articles and book reviews published in this volume represent the increasing expertise of history graduate students. In the following pages you will read about changing ideas concerning American expansionism around the time of American Civil War, the politics and ideology behind The Foundation for Economic Education’s journal The Freeman, the unique position of the Berlin Philharmonic in Nazi Germany, and the viewpoints of elite Anglo-Irish travellers concerning the Irish Question. Through these varied topics readers will be introduced to new fields of research, new methods of study, and the work of young, professional historians.

We would like to extend our congratulations to Claire Wolnisty who has been named the 2014 Winner of the James Madison Award for Excellence in Historical Scholarship. Her article Austral Empires: Southern Migration to Central and South America, 1850-1877 stands as an impressive transnational study of Confederate emigrants to Brazil. Wolnisty’s skills as a historian have made this article an example of the excellent research and writing that can be produced by new scholars.

Over this past year the Madison Historical Review has undergone a number of exciting changes. We have extended our calls for papers to include book reviews which will engage readers in topics not presented in the published articles. Our website has been transferred to a new content managing system, and the editorial board has been given increasing responsibilities. We are most excited to introduce the first printed edition of the Madison Historical Review. Support for this publication comes from the James Madison College of Arts and Letters and James Madison Special Collections. Special thanks go to Dr. David Jeffrey, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters for believing in the mission of the Madison Historical Review. To Xavier Macy, thank you for designing the wonderful graphic of Wilson Hall for the cover. Thank you to Evelyn Riley, Xavier Macy, and Hope Byers for working to secure funding for our future endeavors.

The Madison Historical Review is indebted to the hard work of the editorial board which reads every submission and provides recommendations for publication. Without their hard work the journal would not exist. Special thanks go to the members of our copy editing committee: Chris Carlberg, Casey Musselman, Lucas Allamon, and Megan Sullivan. To Hannah Moses, thank you for expanding out list of contacts. We are also grateful for the support and work of Peggy Smith. Without your patience and computer skills we would not have been able to rework the journal’s webpage. Finally we would like to thank Dr. Andrew Witmer for his guidance, expertise, and assistance in revitalizing the Madison Historical Review.

Lauren Fleming, Executive Editor
Matthew Darroch, Associate Editor