Dear Readers,

To open I remind you of a classic—if not routinely over-stated—historical dichotomy: change and continuity. Whilst this contrast has perpetually evinced its truth, the past six months seem particularly representative: much has been altered for the better—fewer covid-related restrictions at the expense of less lives—, and still more has stayed the same—the continuation of a tragedy both global and personal.

This semester at the Crimson Historical Review has followed such a pattern: as life at the University of Alabama neared normalcy—thanks in large part to the courage and consideration of its faculty—, the Review maintained its policy of maximizing remote work and, in turn, its sterling publication record. CHR staff transformed sixty-plus submissions—a number which rivals any undergraduate journal, in the U.S. or abroad—into our most enterprising issue to date.

The present edition is not only a product of the ability of the broad group of authors detailed above, but also of those with whom they vested their trust: the CHR review board and copy editors. All of these young historians combined to produce, then perfect, articles examining topics ranging from the varied lived experiences in Nazi-occupied areas to masculinity in the Black Panther Party; they also marked important firsts for CHR, centering novel inquiry on our home institution’s complicated relationship with race—particularly, its complicity in slavery and segregation—and reviewing two recently-published monographs. Each piece is based upon a profound research question, well-situated in its historiography, and clearly and cogently argued: in other words, as brilliant as every person whose efforts guaranteed this volume’s success.

To this end, I extend, as always, my thanks to Dr. Margaret Peacock. As faculty advisor, she has proven instrumental to the Review’s sustained success; she is as generous as she is erudite—altogether superlative. Superlative, too, were Lily Mears, who now ends her tenure as Chief Copy Editor to lead production, and Logan Goulart, who leaves his position as Review Board Executive to study at U. Chicago. I know that Logan will shine up north, and that he will be adeptly replaced here by Gavin Jones. Lastly, I congratulate John French—he performed the role of Executive Administrator with characteristic dexterity—, and John Pace, whose promotion to Co-Chief Editor is entirely deserved.

Please enjoy Vol. III, No. II of the Crimson Historical Review,

Jackson C. Foster

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Editor-in-Chief