



# NEWS RELEASE

## CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 10, 2023

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### **“Reporting the Civil War”**

History Talk by Ford Risley

**Sunday, March 26 at 2:00 p.m.**

**At Centre Furnace Mansion, 1001 E. College Ave., State College, PA**

**RSVP Required**

**[CentreHistory.org/research-explore/henszey-pyle-author-series/](http://CentreHistory.org/research-explore/henszey-pyle-author-series/)**

**Or call 814-234-4779.**

Professor Ford Risley will present an illustrated talk, “Reporting the Civil War,” based on his book, *Civil War Journalism*. The talk will be held on March 26 at 2:00 p.m. at the Centre Furnace Mansion.

The Civil War was the first American war widely reported by newspapers and magazines. Hundreds of correspondents, photographers and artists in the field chronicled the four years of fighting on land and sea.

The talk will examine how the war was reported during a time when newspapers and magazines became essential reading for Americans. A colorful cast of newsmen from the North and South reported the conflict in words and pictures. At a time when no standards existed for sound and responsible journalism, many met the challenge admirably, providing reports that were informative and insightful. However, less-skilled men for both sides also reported news that was inaccurate, exaggerated, or reckless.

Ford Risley is Distinguished Professor of Communications in the Bellisario College of Communications at Penn State. He is the author or editor of four books, including *Civil War Journalism* and *Abolition and the Press: The Moral Struggle over Slavery*, as well as numerous journalism articles, essays, and reviews. He also serves as co-editor of the *Centre County Encyclopedia of History & Culture*.

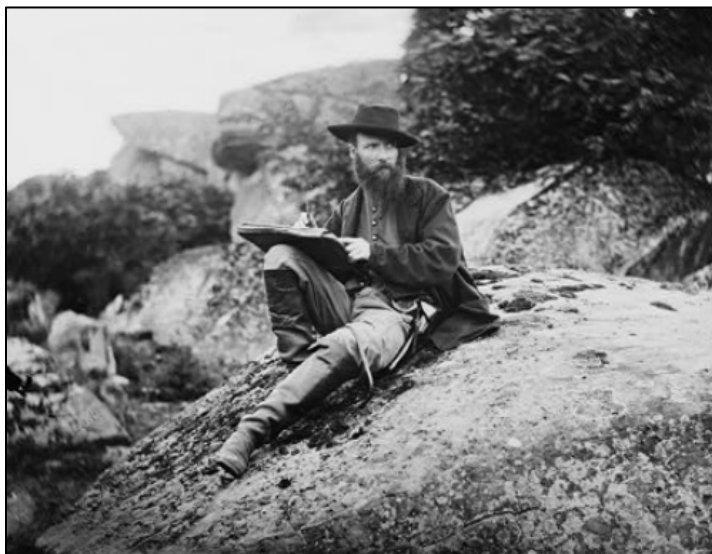
*This program is a part of the distinguished author series underwritten by the Anne Hamilton Henszey Pyle and Kenneth B. Pyle Educational Fund for Regional Heritage Preservation (Henszey-Pyle Fund.)*

The program is free and open to the public. RSVPs are required and may be made by calling 814-234-4779 or reserving online at <https://centrehistory.org/research-explore/henszey-pyle-author-series/>. Donations are graciously accepted. For general information and program updates, visit [www.CentreHistory.org](http://www.CentreHistory.org).

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CENTRE FURNACE MANSION

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*Image of stereograph courtesy of Library of Congress,  
Alfred R. Waud (1828-1891) sketching on battlefield at Gettysburg*