CATHOLIC NURSING AND THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG: A HEALTH HUMANITIES PERSPECTIVE

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Confederate infantry make their last desperate attempt to break the Union line here. Painting by Mort Künstler.

"Medical Service".

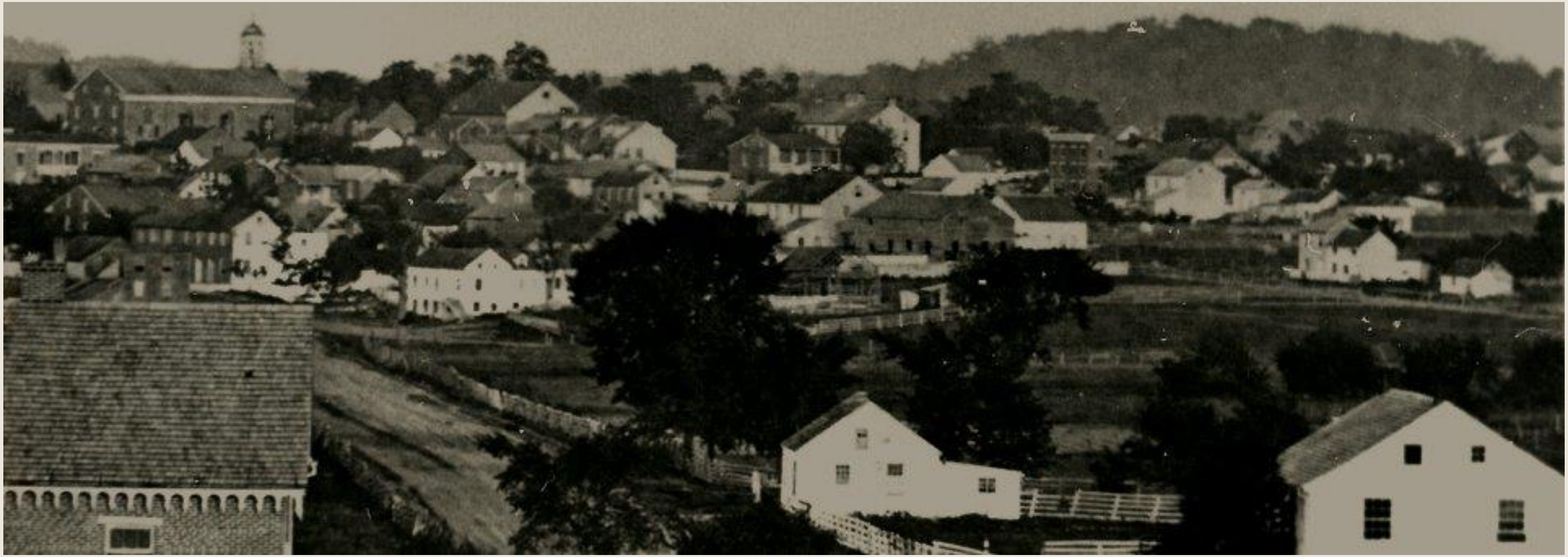
SISTER CAMILLA

Camilla O'Keefe was one of nearly forty Daughters of Charity from Emmitsburg, Maryland, who traveled to Gettysburg to care for the wounded.

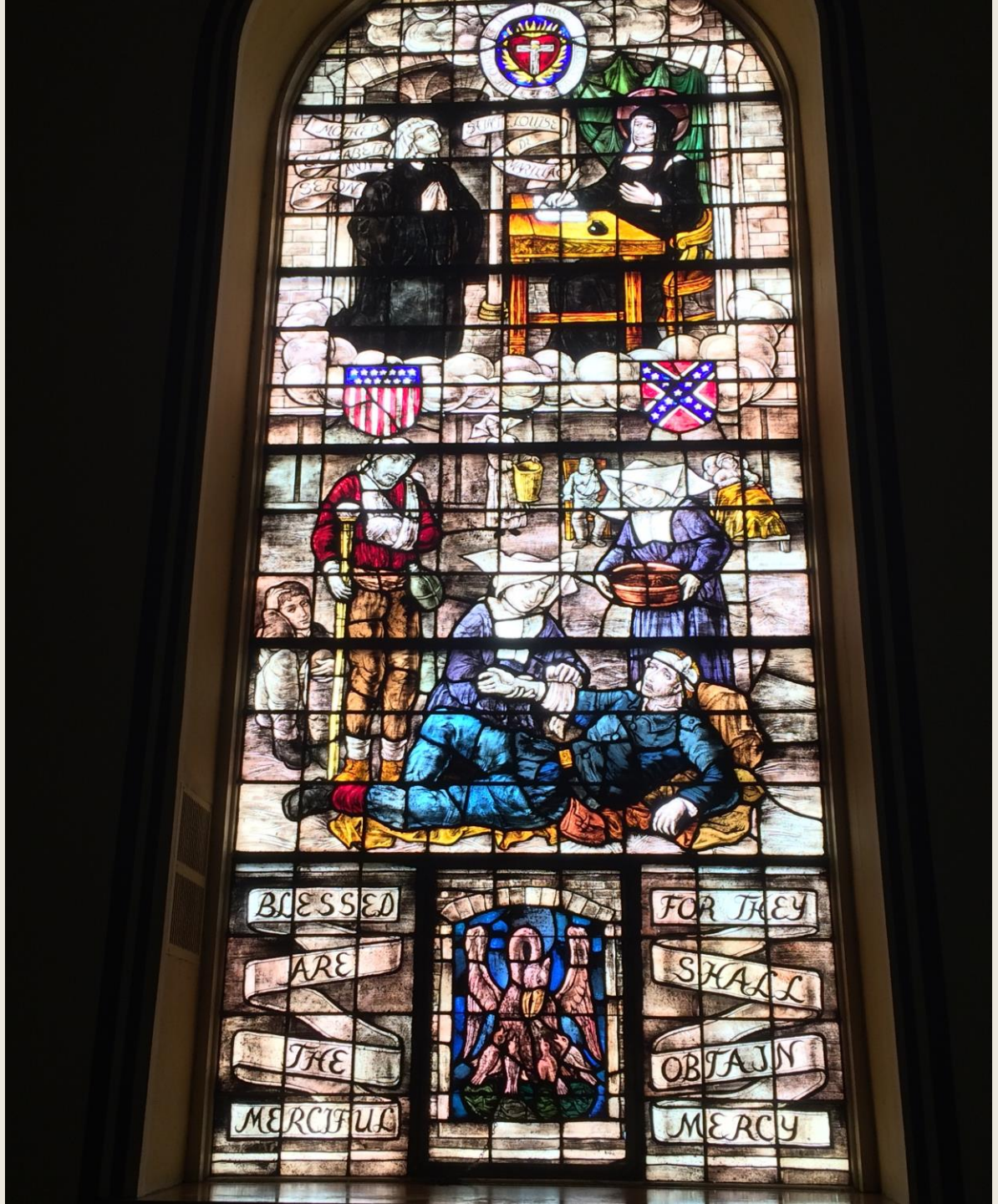
Courtesy of Daughters of Charity Archives, Emmitsburg, MD

WOMEN AND THE WOUNDED

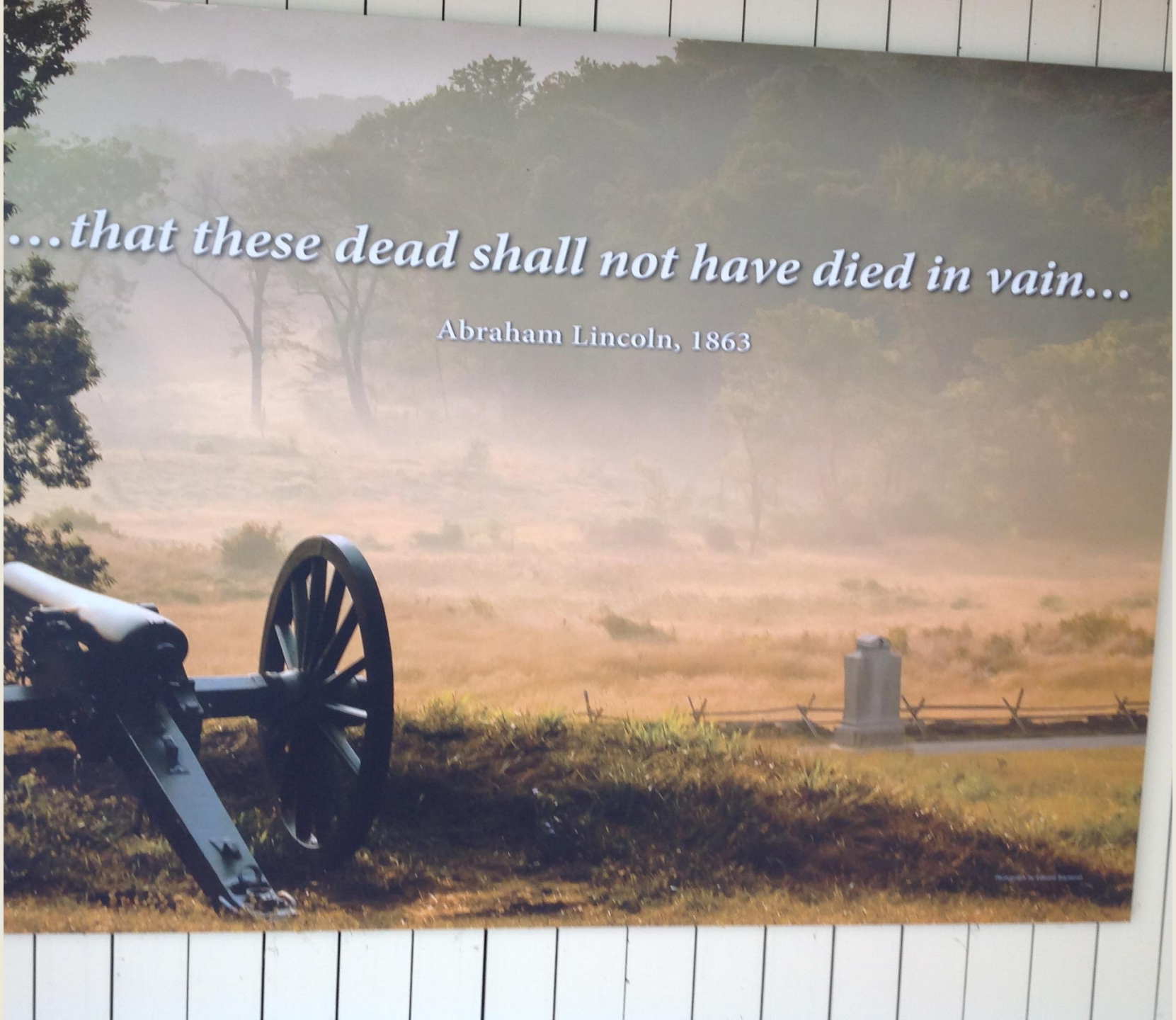
The women of Gettysburg could hardly avoid wounded soldiers from the battle. The wounded crawled into their homes. The women baked, washed, changed bandages, and comforted suffering and dying soldiers. As the battle ended, women volunteers from across the country traveled to the town to help.



or provide to, they shall say it to you and to
one other, and you will judge what is to
be done. The Sisters should conduct them-
selves with the greatest modesty and reserve,
remembering that not only God sees them but
the eyes of every body in the Hospitals are
on them, while they shall avoid rudeness
roughness and especially unkindness, remem-
bering that those patients are Gods own
Image for whose souls our Lord died and
consequently they are to be treated with
great respect. They are also to be careful
not to listen to tales that some patients
might be inclined to tell about their lives
and ~~pasts~~ souls or adventures, but as soon as
they perceive that what they wish to say is
matter of confession the Sister should tell them
that those things are to be manifested
to the Priest in the confessional.
In regards to compensation, although
the Sisters do not receive any for their
services, nevertheless it is just that they should have
something for their clothing. The usual rate is too
little as there is much wearing & tearing & many little


BLESSED
ARE
THE
MERCIFUL
FOR THEY
SHALL
OBTAIN
MERCY

BB&T


...that these dead shall not have died in vain...
Abraham Lincoln, 1863