CORNELIA HANCOCK

CIVIL WAR NURSE

ord came to Cornelia Hancock, at her home in New Jersey on July 5, 1863, that a great battle had been fought near a town in Pennsylvania called Gettysburg, and she quickly departed for the place by train. She was 23 years old. When she arrived in Gettysburg, there were countless wounded soldiers waiting on the platform to be put on the train to go to larger hospitals in cities, or to their homes to recover. She fed and cared for soldiers of the Second Corps for over a month, and when it was time to move on, it was like "parting with ones' own family" she wrote.

Stand in the footsteps of Cornelia Hancock on the platform behind the Gettysburg Train Station on Carlisle Street (Auto Tour Stop B), and imagine her fears as she arrives there.

Photo courtesy of the New Jersey Historical Society and the Hancock House, NJ.