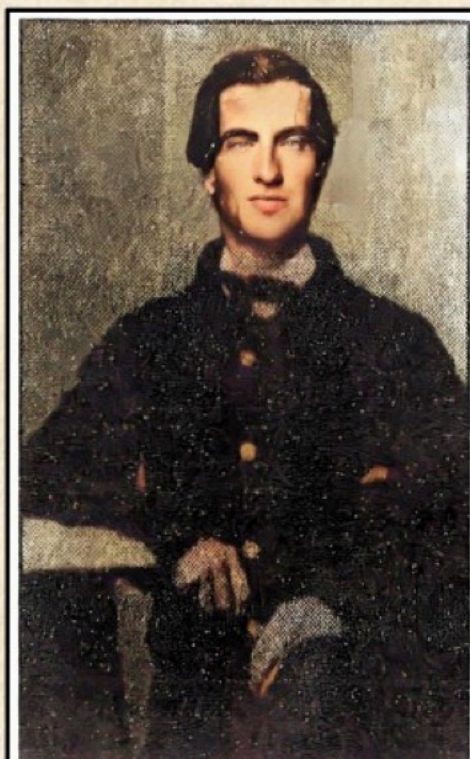


Justus Mitchell Silliman (1842-1896), like many of the founders, served in the U.S. Civil War. Generals, Privates, and most all ranks, even a couple of Rebels.

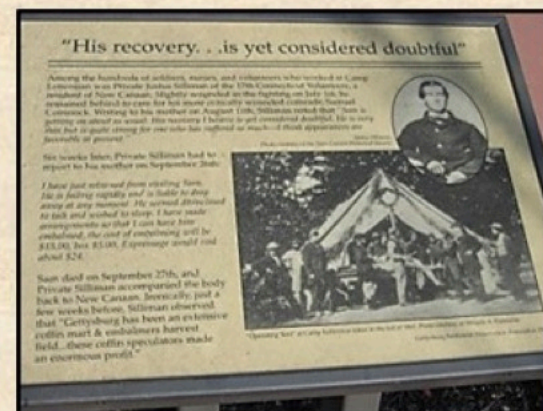
Silliman served three years in the U.S. Armies of the Potomac and South, at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. At Gettysburg he was wounded and captured, escaped and was recaptured.

During the war he wrote letters to his family and friends. His mother collected 140 of these and preserved them, they have been published and are used by tour guides and on Battlefield markers.



PVT. JUSTUS M. SILLIMAN,
of Company H, 17th Connecticut

COURTESY NEW CANAAN
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



*A New Canaan Private in the Civil War
Letters of Justus M. Silliman,
17th Connecticut Volunteers*



NEW CANAAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Silliman graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and took charge of the Department of Mining Engineering and Graphics at Lafayette in 1870. The first mining engineering degrees were issued in 1871.

The mining curriculum included: theory of machines and mining tools; strength and stability of structures; practical hydraulics; geology and physical geography; qualitative and quantitative analysis and blow piping; determinative minerology; assaying; mine survey and exploration; metallurgy; construction and engineering of mines; examination of mines; treatment of specific ores. George B. Markle, a Hazleton coal mine operator, endowed a chair in mining engineering. Justus M. Silliman became the division's first endowed professor in 1873.

