

Lil Zook, a Chester County Nurse in the Civil War  
Elizabeth "Lil" Zook left Exton in 1863 at 16 years of age and  
joined the Army of Nurses. She worked in a Military Hospital  
around Washington, D.C.

Her parents were John and Elizabeth Zook, Amish but they joined the  
Quakers.

She worked on the night shift, sleeping a few hours at a time during  
the day. She did sewing, writing and cooking mostly stewed  
tomatoes, bread and butter and a farina pudding.

There was diptheria in the hospital and many fleas and bugs that bit.  
She was of course the object of much gossip. She was hired by the  
Sanitary Commission which was like the present USO, Salvation  
Army and Red Cross.

Dorothy Dix was in charge of the Nurses in 1862. She was 60 years old.  
and disliked by all the nurses. Dorothy Dix did not like female  
nurses and was very disagreeable to them Lil Zook found her  
insufferable. The Hospital Surgeon was over Dorothy Dix and  
he approved of Lil Zook so she kept her job.

Lil thought many of the people she worked with were disagreeable and she  
wrote telling her brother so. Her main concern was the  
procedures practiced.

Dorothy Dix put her in charge of the black ward. Lil found them to be  
refined in manner and obedient. And was able to find jobs  
for some of them in Chester County

The soldiers who suffered so much said they ~~were~~ would no reinlist.  
Lil was happy there she met a German family near by and became friendly  
with them. She sailed on the Hampton Creek when she had free  
time

1865 she was the last nurse in the hospital and didnt want to go home  
she had enjoyed the freedom she had at the hospital.

She died in Hampton Hospital near Fort Monroe on Sept. 4, 1865, age 19.

She probably had dysentery. She was burried in the  
Downingtown Friends Meeting Burial Grounds.

P.S. Baseball was started during the Civil War.

This information taken from Mr Harper's Book 1990/