

CW/VFM-29: *John White Geary*

- Wartime engraving of Geary in uniform. MS 1pp.
- Personal Correspondence. MS 1pp.
- Description of Contents—“Geary, John White. Union general from Pennsylvania; surveyor and railroad engineer; served in Mexican War; appointed by President Polk to set up California’s postal system; first Alcalde of San Francisco; territorial governor of Kansas in 1856, unsuccessfully attempted to bring about peace to strife-torn “Bleeding Kansas”; at outbreak of Civil War, appointed Col. 28th PA.; wounded at Harpers Ferry in Oct. ’61; captured at Leesburg in March ’62; promoted B.G.USV April 1862; saw action at Rappahannock, Cedar Mountain, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Wauhatchie [where his son was killed], Lookout Mountain, and Missionary Ridge; division commander on “March to the Sea”; brevetted Major General USV; Military Governor of Savannah; postwar Governor of Pennsylvania, serving two terms, from Jan. 1867 until Jan. 1873. Choice content Autograph Letter Signed “Jno. W. Geary” as Governor, 8vo, on official imprinted stationery, Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 22, 1867. The newly-elected governor replies to “Prof. M.L. Stoeber”, and profoundly relates: “...in my opinion the battle of Gettysburg was one of the greatest of the nineteenth century. IN the Providence of God, it was the turning point of the War of the Rebellion, and upon its success depended the liberties and happiness we now enjoy...” Geary died just eighteen days after completing his second term as Governor. Inlaid. With a war-time engraved portrait in uniform. TMs 1pp.
- Note referring reader to “John White Gery” file in the McConaughy Collection. TMs 1pp.

Keywords: Union – East & West – PA; Papers - Manuscripts; Army – Infantry; Soldier – Generals; Pictures - Engravings

Location: Civil War Vertical File Manuscripts, Special Collections & College Archives, Musselman Library at Gettysburg College.

See also: [Civil War Sources in Special Collections](#)