

CW/VFM-31: *Battle of Gettysburg, First Shot*

- Photograph of alleged firer of the “First Shot” at the Battle of Gettysburg. 1 pp.
- Letter from the Rev. Frederick S. Weiser of Lancaster, PA to Dr. Bloom explaining the provenance of the photo. Dated 10 May 1961. Ms 2pp.
- Typed Manuscript giving an explanation for all figures that appear in the photo. TMs 2pp.

The photograph has three men shaking hands. On the back it is noted that the original is in the possession of Dr. Kenneth N. Hiatt, Glen Ellyn, IL. The men are numbered, from left to right: 1) M.E. Jones, 2) Col. Marion McCarty, 3) Pvt. Thomas B. Kelley. The photograph is dated 1 July 1891.

The Typed manuscript describes the action that precipitated the “First Shot” by Lieutenant Marcellus E. Jones of Company E., 8th Illinois Cavalry near the Cashtown creek bridge. It is determined that the man he fired at, also appearing in the photo, was Col. W. Marion McCarty of the 1st Texas Legion.

In the letter, Rev. Weiser explains to Dr. Bloom that he no longer has time to pursue research on the “first shot” mentioned here, so he forwards some of his gathered research materials to Dr. Bloom in hopes that he will be able to use them. Mentioned are two newspaper articles (not included) and two photographs (one included).

Keywords: Gettysburg – Battle; Pictures – Photographs; Reunions – Gettysburg Other

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

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