

**CW/VFM-130: *Sergeant George W. Davison, 15<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts, Co. H***

George W. Davison (Davidson) enlisted in the 15<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1861. He was wounded at Ball's Bluff (10/21/1862).

The 15<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts was organized in Worcester on June 12, 1861. It fought in such major engagements as Ball's Bluff (10/21/1861), Antietam (9/16-17/1862), Fredericksburg (12/12-15/1862), Gettysburg (7/1-3/1863), Cold Harbor (6/1-12/1864), and Petersburg (6/16-17/1864). This regiment was mustered out in July of 1864, and the veterans and recruits were transferred to the 20<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts.

Letters from Davison to his uncle, H.T. Crosby:

10/27/1861: very detailed account of the battle of Ball's Bluff, including troop movements in preparation for and during the battle. He was wounded here when a ball glanced off his gun and hit his leg.

Color (enlarged) photocopy: 4pp.  
Transcribed copy: 2pp.

5/2/1862: mentions the siege of Yorktown, and describes camp life during this time.

Color photocopy: 2pp.  
Transcribed copy: 1pp

6/7/1862: mentions how his regiment received honor for their performance at the battle of Malvern Hill; and he gives a brief, but fairly detailed, description of what transpired there.

Color photocopy: 2pp  
Transcribed copy: 1pp

Undated (possibly only part of the letter?):

Letter from Davison's Brother to his uncle, H.T. Crosby:

6/24/1862: mentions that he received a letter from George, and that he has had a rough fight; further explains what was said in George's last letter to his uncle.

Color photocopy: 2pp  
Transcribed copy: 1pp

**Keywords:** Union – East – Massachusetts – 15<sup>th</sup>; Letters; Army – Infantry;  
Soldier – Non-Commissioned Officers

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

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