

## **CW/VFM-138: Thomas Padgett Letters**

*Processed by: Thomas Lester  
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### **Provenance:**

Purchased from Kurt Gippert Bookseller.

**Biography:** It is believed that the Padgett family was from the town of Marshall in Clark County, Illinois. Padgett was an artilleryman in the 1<sup>st</sup> United States Artillery. He often wrote letters to his sister Mary Ann who was staying with their uncle, also named Thomas. Padgett participated in several battles, most notably Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. It was at Gettysburg that he was wounded, and would later die of complications from an amputation on July 19, 1863.

**Scope and Content:** This collection contains a series of letters, most of which are from Thomas Padgett to his sister Mary Ann. In many instances he is offering her advice on how to behave and how to act while she stays with their Uncle Thomas. In one letter he mentions his experiences in the Battle of Chancellorsville. There are also several letters from friends or fellow soldiers of Thomas Padgett, usually writing to his sister concerning his life and death.

List of Letters:

Thomas Padgett to his sister Mary Ann. Edwards Ferry, MD. December 24, 1861.  
Thomas Padgett to his sister Mary Ann. Coolenville, MD. January 20, 1862.  
Thomas Padgett to his sister Mary Ann. Camp near Yorktown, VA. April 21, 1862.  
Thomas Padgett to his sister Mary Ann. Near Richmond, VA. July 8, 1862.  
Thomas Padgett to his sister Mary Ann. Fredericksburg, VA. December 15, 1862.  
Thomas Padgett to his sister Mary Ann. Following Battle of Chancellorsville. No Date.  
Letter from Thomas Padgett.  
Letter from Oliver Lewis. Washington DC. August 10, 1863.  
Letter from Unknown. Washington DC. August 25, 1863.  
Letter from Oliver Lewis. Washington DC. October 14, 1863.  
Letter from John Sheet. Fort Independence, Boston Harbor, Massachusetts. November 26, 1863.

Each letter is accompanied by a photocopy of it

***Keywords:*** Union – East – US – 1<sup>st</sup>; Letters; Army – Artillery; Soldiers – Privates

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

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