

**Object ID:** *MG0828\_SeriesD-61\_F12*

**Document:** *Letter from Mazie Welsh to Thomas Welsh*

**Transcription:**

July 1 1861

My Dear Papa

i will be so glad when the 20 of July Comes Mamma received your letter and was very glad to hear from you Mrs Mullen said she did not hear from Amos since you were here lillie says her foot is getting well but she does not wear her shoe but she can were her slipper the children are all well we had 23 chickens but the big hens and rooster tramped on one and killed it and mamma thinks the cats caried one or to away and there are only twenty. paul rich wrote to jim and said him and tom were coming down on the forth of july our school broke up on friday after noon and a great manny of us spoke peacees and i spoke the flackberry girl Allee[?] rote a composition Marny[?] wilson[?] spoke such a funny little peace it was dear me what shall i do i broke my chier and tumbled through when ma comes back what will she say i have been a naughty girl [missing: today?] lillie is the pap and alice is the mother and effie tends the post office ann and maggie and jim send their love to you effie lillie and allice send their love to you also they reported that tomas welsh went through with a wooden sword Mr appold has sold all the pigs but two the Mazie had a good bit of watter in her and tommy got her fixed there are not many boats running now I[?] mary dasey[?] was just to late for the cars when you went away The cat at the store has little kittens Good bye

from your affectionate daughter  
Mazie Welsh

[transcribed by Rick Wiggin, 2016.]

**Analysis: Wiggin**

1. Mazie (the family nickname for Mary) is age 8 at this time.
2. Paul Rich is probably her cousin, son of Thomas Welsh's sister Catherine. Catherine Rich and her family appear to have left Columbia, as they do not appear in the 1860 census. This is the only reference to the Rich family I have found after John Rich and Thomas Welsh ended their partnership in 1857. If the lack of other references might be interpreted as bad blood, it appears not to be the case—or at least that it didn't extend to the cousins.
3. Mazie's classmates are unidentified.
4. Amos Mullen was serving with Thomas Welsh as 3rd Sergeant in the 2nd Pa. Reg., Co. F
5. Ann, Maggie, and Jim are cousins, children of Thomas Welsh's sister Mary. In 1857, Thomas Welsh became their legal guardian. Their father died in 1854; something must have happened to their mother in 1857, but it is unknown exactly what.



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6. *Mr. Appold appears to be a business associate, helping to take care of Thomas Welsh's business interests after he departed for the war. The Thomas Welsh, the Mazie Welsh, and the Mary Dasey appear to be canal boats, although it isn't clear what the expression "went through with a wooden sword" could mean, or who Tommy is. We know that he had at least 6 canal boats, one of which was named the Alice Welsh, and family history has it that he named his canal boats after his children, so the Mazie Welsh fits this pattern. The Thomas Welsh and the Mary Dasey[?] are suggested by context.*

**Scope and Content Note:**

*Handwritten letter from 8-year old Mazie (Mary) to her father, Thomas Welsh. Letter includes news about various family members, visitors, chickens, school, playing house, and canal boat information. Note: Paul Rich is most likely her cousin, son of Thomas Welsh's sister Catherine; Amos Mullen served with Thomas Welsh as 3rd Sergeant in the 2nd Pa. Reg., Co. F.; Ann, Maggie, and Jim are cousins, children of Thomas Welsh's sister, Mary. Mr. Appold is a business associate, helping to take care of Thomas Welsh's business affairs while he is gone.*

