



MSS295 Thomas M. Reynolds letters to Louisa J. Seward, American Civil War Digital Collections: Letters, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

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Transcriptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.

[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged, yellowed paper. The text is written in cursive and spans across the top and middle sections of the page. A circular stamp is visible in the upper right corner.]

MARSHALL HOUSE,

GHEEN & CO. Proprietors.

Alexandria, Va. Jan. 17th 1864

My Dearest Lou

Since I wrote you last I have been but one day with the Regt. having been constantly on duty taking recruits up to the Army of the Potomac. Last night I arrived here from the front found your thrice welcome letter awaiting me. But alas! my Regt had moved: they have gone again to Fairfax Court House. I shall follow them to-morrow morning if I arrange my business in time.

I fear Lou that you have been uneasy in reference to me. But if it had been possible for me to have written I should have done so. I hope that e'er long I shall have time to write you one of my long letters. Lou I was more than happy in hearing from you for apparently I had not heard for months.

I am very sorry your Mother is ill again but hope e'er this she has again recovered. You speak of not being able perhaps to visit me this winter. Would to Heaven you were here now. I too could then be happy. I appreciate

Jan. 17th 4

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very highly Sister Mary's selfishness in wanting you always near her but you may say to her that I would be happy to deprive her of your society for a few weeks, or until the spring Campaign demands us in the field. I know that I should care for you so well that Mrs Golt could not object to making two souls happy, even if she should be lonely for a season. Several of the Officer's wives are boarding here waiting until our camp at the Court House shall be fixed up.

I called for a few minutes this morning on two of the Ladies they seem exceedingly anxious that I should bring my wife down shortly. I of course promised them that I would. I expect to make application for leave of absence as soon as I get to Camp and if I succeed who knows but that I may bring Mrs Reynolds on with ^{me} at my return. I have not time now to reply to your letter in full but if you will pardon me I will write soon after joining my Regt.

Thank Heaven that now I can make some positive promises as I shall not have to go to the front any more and remain for weeks. You may then expect another letter from me very

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shortly. If I should fail to get home
on leave I shall want you to visit
Baltimore if possible and I can don
the apparel of the citizen and ride down
to see you. Give my love to sis Mary
and be sure to write me as often
as possible. I am glad my photograph
is in favor but I think I shall
have to get another taken as I believe
I am improving in my personal
appearance. You won't believe that
will you? Well just come down and
see if it isn't so. Good Bye
~~I remain ever~~

Lou J Seward. *Truly thine* Tom

Address as before

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Lou J Seward Tom
[underline] Address as before [end underline]