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Transciptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.

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any seafed a conditioned for and . I faren heaven afort smare I'me anish you are so in Dover Del pune 26.1862 My Dearest Son I arrived safely in Dover, about 1/2 O'clock, on Sunday night, and should have arrived earlier, but shorty after I left Hayletteville I fell asleep and my horse taken the wrong road: When I anoke I was Romewherd near Kenton in the middle of a large words. The korse run me into a small ditch & aroused me or I quess I should have been some--ahere in servleastle loounty by morning. It was the most lonely vide I ever experienced. You can partially imagine my reflections, after the events of the day and my very abrupt departure. and for the peculiar circumstances in which I am placed, always renders my leaving you. Very coolly indeed; there word that can find utterance alone in the parting moments, are forever locked within my own boson. and nothing but the pressure of the hand - the gentle "Good bye" can be given to evince the pain of parting. One moment alme, at the hour of parting with those we love, is more highly when miles intervene, than hours spent in the Social circle. The last fond word can never be forgotten-it cannot, cannot perish. My visit

Dover Del June 26 1862 My Dearest Lou

I arrived safely in Dover about 1 1/2 O'clock on Sunday night, and should have arrived earlier but shortly after I left Hazletteville I fell asleep and my horse taken the wrong road. When I awoke I was somewhere near Kenton in the middle of a large woods.

The horse run me into a small ditch + aroused me or I guess I should have been somewhere in NewCastle County by morning.

It was the most lonely ride I ever experienced. You can partially imagine my reflections after the events of the day and my very abrupt departure. And Lou the peculiar circumstances in which I am placed always renders my leaving you very cooly indeed; those word that can find utterance alone in the parting moments are forever locked within my own bosom. And nothing but the pressure of the hand the gentle [underline] "Good bye" [end underline], can be given to evince the pain of parting. One moment alone at the hour of parting with those we love is more highly when miles intervene than hours spent in the social circle. The last fond word can never be forgotten it cannot, cannot perish. My visit

in many respects, was extremely pleasant. I have never spent more time with ym, on so short a visit, than this time. yet when I look back it appears as but a moment. The circumstances under which we met were never so painful, There never was a period in my life before, when I fell as strangely as I die Sunday- bever were there so many thoughts muching upon my mind that I could not possibly give utterance to. But one thinght for, around which they all cluster, I expressed to you, whether I usged it to far, or not, I am mable to say, if I did I can assure you, I did it with the purestmotives, Heaven knows I would not wrong you! If I did not love you I could much into the field, or even the "thickest of the fight" without even consulting you. But often have I sound before Heaven to love you, even to my latest breath. Then to leave you without any claims upon me except those registered in Heaven, will be painful indeed! It was for you, and not myself that I made the proposal. I am strong and can make any Racrifice, you are not I can endure the privations, and toils, of the soldier's life; yea anything that my country imposes: only let me feel, ever I go. that towards you I have discharged my duty, and I go willigly!

in many respects was extremely pleasant. I have never spent more time with you, on so short a visit, than this time yet when I look back it appears as but a moment. The circumstances under which we met were never so painful. There never was a period in my life before, when I felt as strangely as I did Sunday-Never were there so many thoughts rushing upon my mind that I could not possibly give utterance to.

But one thought Lou, around which they all cluster I expressed to you. Whether I urged it oo far, or not, I am unable to say. If I did I can assure you I did it with the [underline] purest motives [end underline]. Heaven knows I would not worng you!

If I did not [underline] love [end underline] you I could rush into the field or even the [underline] "thickest of the fight" [end underline] without even consulting you. But often I have vowed before Heaven to love you even to my latest breath. Then to leave [underline] you [end underline] without any claims upon [underline] me [end underline] except [underline] those [end underline] registered in [underline] Heaven [end underline] will be painful indeed! It was for you and not myself that I made the proposal.

I am strong and can make any sacrifice, you are not. I can endure the privations and toils of the soldiers' life yea any thing that my country imposes! Only let me feel, e'er I go that towards you I have discharged my duty and I go willingly!

In the midst-of times like these, we must-expect that social relations are to be severed. Ties of the most sacred character must temporarily be tom asunder. even the brightest hopes of our lives. for a time darkened or perhaps blighted forever, Then our duty is to ameliorate as gan as possible this sad balamity. Thoughts like these are painful. get for I must indelye in them, for I have as much to sacryie as any one who today is placing hinself upon the side of his glorins comity for it to live, and if needs be for it to die Pardon this long letter for I feel as if I could write all day, but my time. warns me I must shortly close. I must-speak of our meeting on Freeday which was grand in the extreme, if you scould have heard the speech of AB Smithes you would have wondered why any loyal man could stay peacably at home, while traitors in findish form were so ignoly assailing our glowns nationality. There were many weleyes in that large assembly. I am notexcepted. But I must close, you will please unte to me immediately of possible. for it shall anxiously amail- your letter. Believe me to remain Unchangedby your I moundas Low of Servind

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I must speak of our meeting on Tuesday which was grand in the extreme if you could have heard the speech of N B Smithers you would have wondered why any loyal man could stay peacably at home while traitors in fiendish form were so ignobly assailing our glorious nationality there were many wet eyes in that large assembly. I am not excepted. But I must close. you will please write to me immediately if possible for I shall anxiously await your letter.

Believe me to remain Unchangeably yours T M Reynolds [underline] Lou J Seward [end underline]