



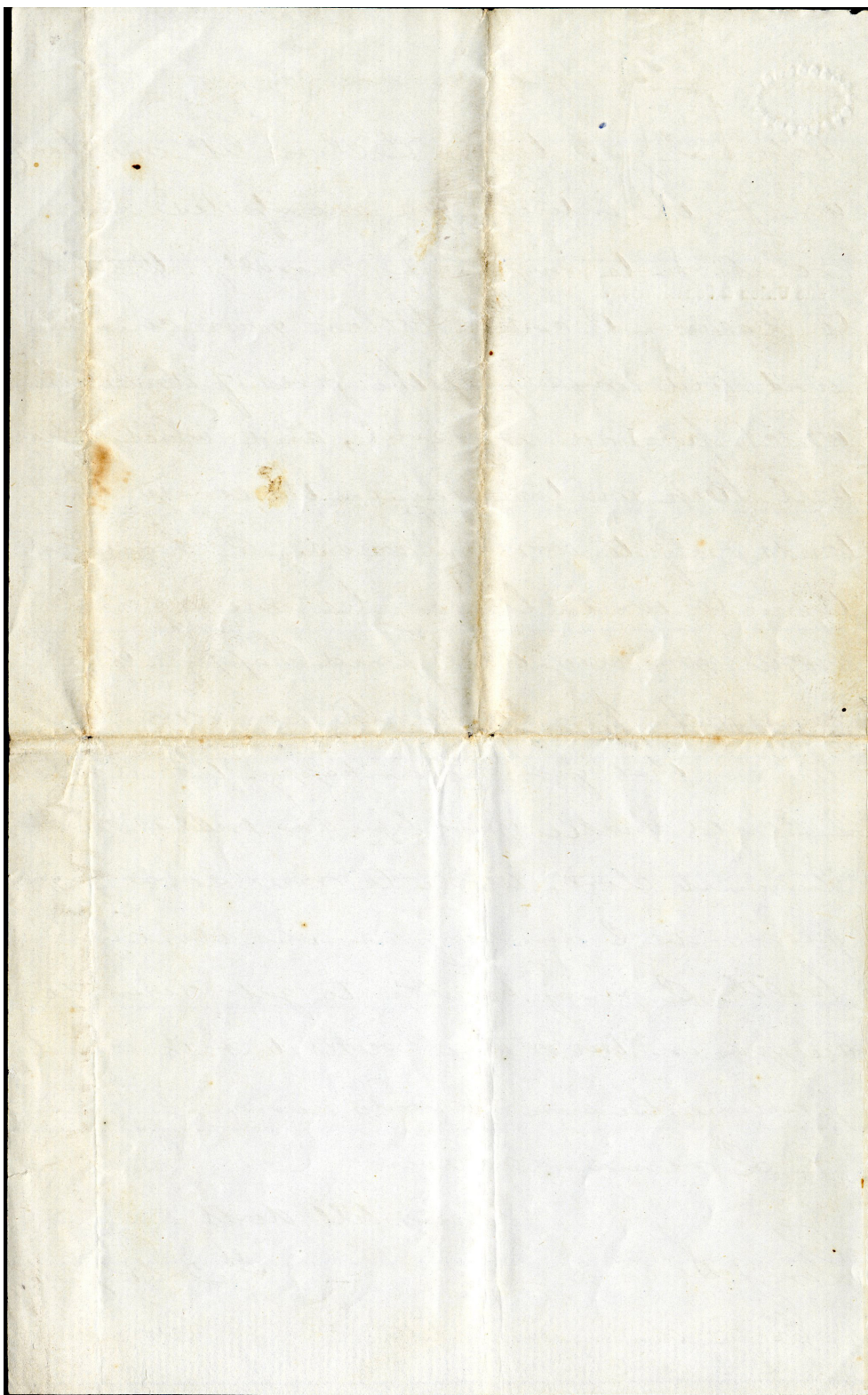
MSS295 Thomas M. Reynolds letters to Louisa J. Seward, American Civil War Digital Collections: Letters, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library / Newark, Delaware 19717-5267 / Phone: 302-831-2229 / Fax: 302-831-6003 / URL: <http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/>

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Use of materials from this collection beyond the exceptions provided for in the Fair Use and Educational Use clauses of the U.S. Copyright Law may violate federal law. Permission to publish or reproduce is required from the copyright holder. Please contact Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library, <http://www.lib.udel.edu/cgi-bin/askspec.cgi>

Transcriptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.





The Union & Constitution.

Camden June 14th 1861

Dearest Lou

Being alone in my studio
silently reviewing the past and contrasting
it with the present, and also contemplating
the future, that future in which perhaps
I shall be called upon to act no little part
- I seize my pen almost convulsively, to pen
a few lines in reply to your thrice welcome letter
I was sorry to hear that you were scarcely
able to pen those lines which I read so
eagerly. Oh: I sincerely hope that you have
recovered your health e'er this, and that your
cheerful smile may spread its joyful influence
around as it used to do, Oh that I could
be permitted to join in the merry circles
again, that I used to meet in your neighborhood.
But I cannot yet. You you said that
if our company should be drafted you would

Camden June 14th 1861

Dearest Lou

Being alone in my studio silently reviewing the
past and contrasting it with the present and
contemplating the future, that future
in which perhaps I
shall be called upon to act
no little part I seize my pen almost
convulsively, to pen a few lines in reply to your
thrice welcome letter I was sorry to hear that you
were scarcely able to pen those lines which I read
so eagerly, Oh: I sincerely hope that you have
recovered your health e'er this, and that your
cheerful smile may spread its joyful influence
around as it used to do, Oh that I could be
permitted to join in the merry circles again, that I
used to meet in your neighborhood. But I cannot
yet. Lou you said that if our company should be
drafted you would

like to see me before I go. Let me assure you that, if I go to fight for my country I shall not forget that while my country is dear to me in a national point of view that in the social you are dearer. I could not go until I had seen you - until I should give you the parting hand and receive your best wishes for my success, then and only then could I face the angry foe, and if necessary in the Providence of a just God, I could sacrifice my life upon the altar of my country.

Lou the company I now belong to will not go to war, but I expect I shall get up a company of volunteers to go into the U.S. service during the war. I have been advised by a great many and have considerable encouragement from the Head Quarters of the Del. Regiment. I shall publish my card next week if nothing happens. I may not succeed if I do I shall be down to see you

like to see me before I go. Let me assure you that, if I go to fight for my country I shall not forget that while my country is dear to me in a national point of view that in the social you are dearer. I could not go in 'til I had seen you until I should give you the parting hand and receive your best wishes for my success, then and only then could I face the angry foe, and if necessary in the Providence of a just God. I could sacrifice my life upon the altar of my country

Lou the company I now belong to will not go to war, but I expect I shall get up a company of volunteers to go into the U.S. service during the war. I have been advised by a great many and have considerable encouragement from the Head Quarters of the Del. Regiment. I shall publish my card next week if nothing happens. I may not succeed if I do I shall be down to see you

before I go. before I close let me thank
you for the interest you manifested in
relation to my course morally. Would
to Heaven I could follow your counsel
and rid myself of the fires of ambition
which prevad my soul, and which I fear
will keep me too long in the course that
tends only to worldly honors. I have not
time to write longer. let me again
hope you are well and happy if I
am not. for it would pain me to
know that you are unhappy. Would that
I could make your life one endless sunshine.
I must close, write to me soon if you
please as I am very anxious about your
health. I may be able to get down to
see you in two or three weeks, but it is not
positive, Be sure to write soon.

I remain as ever

Yours till death

Lou J Seward

T. M. Reynolds

Excuse this miserable letter
as I was in a hurry

Camden
elf

before I go. before I close let me thank you for
the interest you manifested in relation to my course
morally. Would to Heaven I could follow your
counsel and rid myself of the fires of ambition
which prevad my soul, and which I fear will keep
me too long in the course that tends only to worldly
honors. I have not time to write longer let me
again hope you are well and happy if I am not. for
It would pain me to know that you are unhappy.
Would that I could make your life one endless
sunshine. I must close, write to me soon if you
please as I am very anxious about your health. I
may be able to get down to see you in two or
three weeks, but it is not positive. Be sure to write
soon.

I remain as ever

Yours till death

T.M. Reynolds

Camden Del

Lou J Seward

Excuse this miserable letter as I was in a hurry