



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.

Camp at "White House" on

Pamunkey River Va. June 29th/63

My Dearest Lou

Your letter of June 23rd came duly to hand. It was thrice welcome, coming to me as it did under peculiar circumstances. We have now been here two days, and may probably remain several days yet. Troops are constantly arriving on transports, and I presume we have over 50,000 men within a days march of Richmond.

You need not be surprised then if I write you before many days from the Rebel Capital. This morning the sun is again shining, being the first for several days as it rains almost constantly.

We have had some very hard marching within the past week

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but the men appear in fine spirits. When a year ago, I used to read of Gen. McClellan's marches up the peninsula I little thought I should ever have to perform the same task. but this morning finds me in front of Richmond having passed over the same route. Well I hope we will be more successful than he, and not leave the same task for some other army in the future. for I assure you it is a hard road to travel.

Lou I will not attempt to give you any detailed account of our marches, I could not in a single letter, but will leave it for the future. The papers I find say nothing about this movement at all, therefore it will be sometime before

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those at home can know much
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in Virginia. I also learned
to day that the letters from this
army are stopped at Fortress
Monroe, if so, there will be many
anxious ones at home who have
friends here, for I presume they
will not be forwarded for a
week or two yet. I shall try
and send this by some boat
going to Baltimore. if I succeed
you may get it in due time, but
I fear I shall fail as they
are very particular about such
things. I shall write you every
chance I have, and hope some
of them may reach you, as I know
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Lou I have but a few lines

more to write, what can I say
to cheer you in the long hours,
aye days, that must yet elapse
before I return. I can say that
my hopes of the future are yet bright
and buoyant. and if Richmond falls
as I think it must, it will be a
proud day for the 4th Delaware, as
we occupy the post of honor to
the in this grand army, being the
General's body guard. If I reach
Richmond safely it will not be
many months before I return
home at least for a short time.

I am sorry you are not
enjoying good health. let me
hope you are better now.

Remain in good cheer
for this can not always be our
fate. there is yet a bright
future in store for us. though
perchance the way is paved
with much suffering and great
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I am ever only yours
Lou J Seward

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Tom [end underline]

Lou J Seward