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Transcriptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.
Monday night Sept 30th/61
My Dearest Lou
I am alone—the family have returned and all is still as the grave, except when an occasional footstep on the pavement below breaks the silence.

It is a fit time—and gladly do I embrace it, to write you a few lines. Your late visit to Camden was to me a happy one and I never shall forget the Joy I felt when I met you in my own home surrounded by those I [underline] love [underline] and there learned [inserted text] that [end inserted text] [underline] they [underline] too could love [underline] you [underline]. Yes [underline] Lou [uunderline] could I but tell them that you were the only one that I loved or felt it my duty to tell them I know that they would admire my choice. A knowledge of these things caused me to bless the day that brought you here, and to submit
calmly to the hour that saw you depart although I felt more lonely, if possible than ever in my life before. To morrow I leave for Wilmington and each successive turn of the wheels will take me but farther from you; yet no matter where I go or in whatever society I am called to move your dear image will ever be before me. So matter [inserted text] in [end inserted text] what new scenes I am called upon to act=no matter what eye might chance to smile upon me, I will prove true to the vows I have made until by the blessing of a kind providence I shall hope to call you [underline] mine yes mine forever.[underline]

But I must hasten to a close as I have some packing to and it is already late. I sent your Dusten down this
morning by H. Roe and I presume it has reached you by this time

I would like to fill these pages if I had time but cannot. You will therefore excuse this short letter and I promise you a longer one next time

Write soon if you please as I am anxious to hear from you

Address your letter to Camden as before as I shall be down again in a few days.

I remain as ever
Yours till death
Tom M Reynolds
Camden
Del
Lou J Seward