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Transcriptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.
Dover March 25th/62
My Dearest Lou
I am Alone in my Studio. And throwing aside the cares of the day I seat myself to address you a few lines, a task I am happy to perform. Not that I wish you [underline] far from [end underline] me that I may write you but as fate seems to decree that we must live distant in person I rejoice that this Evening I can commit my thoughts, though feebly, to paper and send them hence. But how shall I address you? Shall I write as to a dear one whome I have not Seen for months? or Shall I be compelled to remember that only three days ago I shook you by the hand. I cannot realize it. I can Scarcely believe that when you left for home perhaps where I shall not see you for months; that I could not even whisper a fond Good bye but merely bid you
a formal good night hasten to my carriage and drive sorrowfully away. I left at least an hour earlier than I anticipated; from the fact that I could not stay longer under the circumstances. for I knew how the result would go and the sooner I left the better it would be, if you ever were placed as I was last Sunday Evening you can judge something of my feelings as I rode home. I thought if I could have only repeated the vows I [inserted text] have [end inserted text] often made to you if I could again have told you that I loved you It would have been differently. But I could not and now as I look back upon it as something of the past, I cannot but feel that happiness is frequently a mere bauble; attracts the attention for a moment an then vanishes. That when we anticipate the most pleasure the cup is [inserted text] often [end inserted text] embittered.
But Lou I must [inserted text] not [end inserted text] write thus or you will think I am Sad. I am not really sad. Yet could our association have been more sociable in its character while you were up it of course would have had its effect. But I still hope that we will meet again soon under more favorable circumstances at which time I hope to Say Some things which I would not commit to paper. Now do not let that remark raise your curiosity because the reasons for not writing [inserted text] it [end inserted text] may be trivial.

Lou let me hope your cold is by this time [deleted text][inserted text] is [end inserted text][end deleted text] entirely well. I was extremely sorry to see you go home so poorly and I was afraid the ride would make it worse. However I shall expect to hear from you soon and to hear that you are in good health.
And Lou when you write I want you if possible to write a long letter when you get tired of writing just remember that I have not received a letter from you for three months and then I know you will begin again.

I would like to write more but my paper warns me to close. You must pardon the mistakes and blunder as I have not time possibly to copy. You may be surprised to hear from me so early but I cannot but think that weeks have gone by since I saw you let me again inscribe my best wishes in regard to your health and again remind you to write early if you can and I am as ever

yours till death
T M Reynolds
Dover
Lou J Seward

NB direct your letter to Dover

I am progressing finely in my Studies.
I watched anxiously for you on Monday morning but you must have passed while I was at breakfast. as ever
TM Reynolds