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 [underline] thrice [end underline] 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 shinny being the first for several days as it rains almost constantly. We have had some very hard marching within the past week.
but the men appear in fine spirits. When a year ago, I used to read of [underline] Gen. McClellans marches up the peninsula [end underline] 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 [underline] route [end underline]. 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[strike through] s [endstrike through] nothing about this movement at all, therefore it will be sometime before
those at home can know much about what is now going on in Virginia. I also learned to day that the letters from this army are stopped at [underline] Fortress Monroe, [end underline] 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 letter by some book going to Baltimore [underline]. if I succeed [end underline] 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 you will be anxious to know where I am. Your letters will all reach me safely if addressed as usual.

Lou I have but a few lines
more to write, what can I say to cheer you in the long hours, [underline] aye days [end underline], 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 town [strike through] to the [end strike through] 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 per chance the war is paved with much suffering and great privations. But it will only make our joys the greater that they be dearly bought. write me oftern. if this reaches you it will explain why you do not hear from me regularly

I am ever
only yours
[underline] Tom [end underline]
Lou J Seward