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Transcriptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.
Fairfax Court House Va
Nov. 7th 1863
My Dearest Lou Nearly a week has elapsed since the receipt of your last. pardon me for not answering immediately, I have been very much occupied with my preparations for going home, beside I have not been well. I thought by waiting a few days I could learn precisely the day we started, but cannot, I think however we will start in about a week.

Lou your letter gave me unbounded pleasure, it was so much more [underline] like [end underline] the Lou I feel you [underline] really [end underline] are than formerly.

Oh I wish you would always write me thus, I know you would like to then why can't you?
Have I not loved you for years I may say? Do we not both look forward to the happy hour when through life we separate no more? why then should we not confide in each other. You cannot imagine how delighted I was on reading the first line. I felt you were even dearer to me than ever. But Lou I cannot write long. it is now midnight. And believing that I shall be with you e'er long. I feel like waiting until then to tell you all.

I feel very well this evening

You will have time to write me again before I start. I do not think there is now any doubt of the Reg't coming home. I would not think so for worlds. I sent you my Photograph last week
I have not yet heard your opinion of it. I hope you will like it. Be sure you kiss it for my sake. pardon me if I close I will write again shortly

I remain

yous till death

[underline] Lou J Seward [end underline] [underline] Tom [end underline]