Camden
July 18 1864

Dear Lou

Through Mr. Burke's politeness I received your letter last monday and intended to answer immediately but I kept neglecting it but it was not because I had forgotten you, no, for that I shall never do as you feel as dear to me as any sister I have, [deleted text] [inserted text] You [end inserted text] say that it is one of the hardest trials of your life to send to the office and there is no letter from [underline] him [end underline] that is just my case for we used to get a letter every week
and sometimes two, but now there come none, I too have tried to think it is all for the best, but I cannot but at some future time we will all see and feel that it was best for him to be taken. It never once entered my thoughts that [underline] he [end underline] would be [underline] killed [end underline], for the truth of it is I thought he was too [underline] good [end underline], and that at some time he would come home to us never to go away again, I am very sorry that you cannot come just now, for I think that Frank and all of us would feel better if you were here. so do not put off coming long, Mr Burke says he is coming up again in a week or two and if you do not come before he is going to bring you then. Frank got a letter from Lieut Cullen last saturday, and he says that [underline] Bud Tom's [end underline] baggage is in Alexandria and he thinks we will get it, he says he had his watch on when he was wounded and he asked him if he should take it and he
said no: [deleted text] and [end deleted text] he cannot [inserted text] now [end inserted text] tell where it is, We have his pocketbook it came over a week ago, and in it was one of Frank's letters that he got and did not get to answer Frank thinks he put [inserted text] it [end inserted text] in there so she would know that he got it,

The family all join me in sending my love to you, Frank wants you to write to her she [deleted text] you [end deleted text] says she will try and answer it for she thinks she can write to you better than any one else

Please [inserted text] excuse [end inserted text] all mistakes and bad writing and answer as soon as you can, I remain as ever your affectionate friend
Mollie E. Reynolds