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My Dearest-You letter came to hand on fast Tensday Evening, and I assure you it was read with pleasure, for I had waited anxiously for its arrival, When I broke The seal and saw my name thus written by your dearpen . I could Jorgel that it had been weeks since I had heard from you. Had you have written nothing more I could if possible have loved you dearer even for that. We sometimes conclude that words are, separately laken, of very little in portance, yet when a dear word is attered by one wo love, one who we believe, yes we know, will not after it falsely, then it is that they are divine then it is that they live brighty in memory

Camden Dec 23rd/61

My Dearest Lou

Your thrice welcome letter came to hand on last Teusday Evening and I assure you it was read with pleasure for I had waited anxiously for its arrival. When I broke the seal and saw my name thus written by your dear pen. I could forget that it had been weeks since I had heard from you. Had you have written nothing more I could if possible have loved you dearer even for that. We sometimes conclude that words are [inserted text] when [end inserted text] separately taken; of very little importance yet when a [underline] dear word [underline] is uttered by one we love, one who we believe, yes we know, will not utter it falsely, then it is, that they are divine then it is that they live brightly in memory [inserted text] halls [end inserted text]

and will ever him even after the voice that attered shall have been hushed of your letter forever, Low since the receipt, and indeed some days before, up til last Saturday Evening I suffered very much with the Veuralgy in my face which Rept mo anata almost night - and day except when I taken something to make me sleep. This Low is the cause why I did not work immediately after I received your letter. I was glad to hear that you werd home again and that Joshua's oldest. Daughter can dispense with your presence for awhile at least, Just here I would remark that the news reched Counden some days since that My Helliams was dead, it surprised me very much indeed, for I thought him a very healthy man. You remarked that the protracted meeting at Bridgetown

and will ever live, even after the voice that uttered [inserted text] them [end inserted text] shall have been hushed forever. Lou since the receipt [inserted text] of your letter [end inserted text] and indeed some days before, up til last Saturday evening I suffered very much with the Neuralgy in my fact, which kept me awake almost night and day except when I taken something to make me sleep. This Lou is the cause why I did not write immediately after I received your letter. I was glad to hear that you were home again and that Joshua's oldest Daughter can dispense with your presence for awhile at least, just here I would remark that the news reached Camden some days since that Mr Williams was dead, it surprised me very much indeed for I thought him a very healthy man. You remarked that the protracted meeting at Bridgetown

was in progress, you have had beautiful monlight evenings during the time Ket quest you have not forgotten how well I like them and you can Judge how I should have enjoyed them had theen in Maryland, for it doesn't take much effort to recall to mind many moonlight. Evenings two have attended Bridgelown, I enjoyed them a year ago and could I enjoy them less now! no! no! I loved you then and you are deaver now. I must hasten on. The interesting and very instructive expenence of the Lady you spots of must I think inevitably be the experience of every individual that in the divine ordinance of Malrimony, places his orher hand I and not their heart-upon the allar No doubt Low it was interesting and I must hear the whole story sometimo When an opportunity is apported.

was in progress, you have had beautiful moonlight evenings during the time. I guess you have not forgotten how well I like them and you can judge how I should have enjoyed them had I been in Maryland, for it doesn't take much effort to recall to mind many moonlight evenings we have attended Bridgetown. I enjoyed them a year ago and could I enjoy them less now? no! no! I [underline] loved [underline] you then and you are [underline] dearer [underline] now. I must hasten on. The interesting and very instructive expereince of the Lady you spoke of must I think inevitably by the experience of every individual that in the divine ordinance of Matrimony places his or her hand and not their heart upon the [underline] altar [underline] No doubt Lou it was interesting and I must hear the whole story sometime when an opportunity is afforded.

There is very little news in launden at this time, the young Folks and looking forward with considerally anticipation. The boys are eagerly hunting Boyes Barrels etc for a grand or Fireclacker which some little wrchin. throws under one's feel, is all that I find to remind me Christmas is near, of course get a glimpso occasionally of Abrighnuto and Molasses bomas 4. But enough of Othis. This morning I arose from my bed by & Oclock and walked down to Church to hear the Old Father Heavey preach, perhaps you have heard him if not you ought to hear him some morning about as early as to did this, without in breakfast and I assure you that you Fidges of somothing similar. of the Blues you will start on your west Delaware as early at least as you anticipate have something to tell you or at least I have present. and perhaps out all I see you. Sue Roe and John Lee were in town Sunday morning only halting a few minutes. I would the great war fuestion of the day, but not room and it is now 120'clock at night-In conclusion let me wish you a happy Christmas, whething that the period which you once looked forward to with the fer hope, may it byet be pleasant, employed, I clan say no more only that I shall spend it as becomes me no more only that I shall spend it as were ine most occupying the position down they respect to the that I could spend it with you in Many land but count of could spend it with you in Many land but count o write yeng avon y possible I am as ever your only I M Reyndo

There is very little news in Camden at this time. the young Folks are looking forward with considerably anticipation. The boys are eaterly hunting Boxes Barrels etc for a grand "Bon fire" to morrow night. this and an[strikethrough]d[end strikethrough] occasional report of a Torpedo or [underline] Firecracker [underline] which some little urchin throws under ones feet, is all that I find to remind me Christmas is near, of course I get a glimpse occassionally of Doughnuts and Molasses Candy +c. But enough of this.

This morning I arose from my bed by 5 O'clock and walked down to Church to hear [strikethrough]the[strikethrough] Old [underline]Father Hearsey[underline] preach, perhaps you have hea[inserted text]r[end inserted text]d him if not you ought to hear him some morning about as early as I did this without your breakfast and I assure you that you will experience a fearfull attack of the [underline]Blues[underline] Fed gets up something similar.

I hope Lou you will start on your visit in Delaware as early at least as you anticipate for I have something to tell you or at least I have some business with you that I will not speak of at present and perhaps not till I see you.

Sue Roe and John Lee were in town Sunday morning only halting a few minutes. I would love to fill a page on the peculiar state of the great war question of the day but I have not room and it is now 12 O'clock at night. In conclusion let me wish you a happy Christmas, [striketrhough]wishing[end strikethrough] hoping that the period which you once looked forward to with the fervor of a child's hope, may it yet be pleasantly enjoyed. I can say no more only that I shall spend it as becomes me most occupying the position I do in every respect Oh that I could spend it with you in Mary land but cannot-Excuse all errors and be sure to write very soon if possible I am as ever yours only

T M Reynolds Lou J Seward