

## MSS295 Thomas M. Reynolds letters to Louisa J. Seward, American Civil War Digital Collections: Letters, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

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Transciptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.

Chambersville Febry 13 184 Ofter having passed throught faligues of the day, I find myse this beautiful mornlight evening, alone in my Studio - Shut in, for awhile. from the cares of my daily vocation, and with a few moments to devote to silent reverie. And Oh! how pleasant it is to thus Steal Softly to my room, and ponder over the scenes of the past, and, in my mind, to live them over again! But the immaginary falls for short of the reality. and is thereford a very poor substitute. And I'm it is with feelings like these that I again take my pen in hand to intrude upon you another letter, but I feel that you will pardon mo; for had I have believed when I last met you, that this evening

Chambersville Febry [February] 13th 1861 Dearest Lou

After having passed through the fatigues of the day, I find myself this beautiful moonlight evening, alone in my Studio-Shut in, for awile, from the cares of my daily vocation, and with a few moments to devote to silent reverie. And Oh! how pleasant it is to thus steal softly to my room, and ponder over the Scenes of the past, and, in my mind, to live them over again! But the immaginary falls far short of the reality and is therefore a very poor substitute.

And Lou it is with feelings like these that I again take my pen in had to intrude upon you another letter, but I feel that you will pardon me; for had i have believed when I last met you, that this evening

Would have found me hero; I should have asked of you the favor, which I now take without your permission I have not heard from Caroline but once lince I left, and that was from my particular friend of onell. he spoke of all the Ladies except you of you he never settered a syllable. Whether he did it on purpose, or not, I am unable to say, - Judge of my surprise when & glanced eagerly over the pages for your name but did not find it. I came to the conclusion, at first, that you had left the neighborherd, but he stated that hip Annie was still over, which convinced me otherwise: Low I sincerely hope that you are enjoying yourself finely, and that you will occasionally think of one who once Shared lipe's pleasures with you but. who alas! is now doomed to another fale. I have had the horrors ever since &

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came up here. I have about thirty Eight Scholars in School and the redest you ever saw . I have expelled one already. I have not yet visited any one and do not know when I shall . I have met but one young lady, Lince I came up, and , she looks about like those we Saw, at the Quarterly meeting at Templines Lo you can Judge how I like hewlastle. But I fear I am getting tedins I suppose you have received my Degacrotype befor this as I mailed it over two weeks since. the day, was very unfavorable, that it was taken, But I guess you recognized the young man, had I thought you would not, I should have enclosed his name. Low if I am not asking too much I will request you to answer this, give me the new of the neighborhood, in fact there is nothing connected with Central & Roads but what will interest me. Let me Know

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how Mollie F is getting along for you know that [underline] she [underline] is one of my best [underline] friends [underline]. Yes one of those noble hearted friends such as are not apt to forsake up when fortune frowns. But I must close as I have already written too lengthy a letter, excuse the lenght. write soon and believe me to remain as ever Yours devotedly Lou J. Seward Tom M. Reynolds Near Smyrna Del

N.B. I presume I shall not get down until my school closes, which is about the middle of April As ever Tom M. Reynolds NewCastle Co Near Smyrna Del