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**Transcriptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.**

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Dover March 25<sup>th</sup>/62

My Dearest Lou

I am Alone in my Studio.  
And throwing aside the cares of the day  
I seat myself to address you a few  
lines, a task I am happy to perform,  
Not that I wish you far from me  
that I may write you, but as fate  
seems to decree that we must live  
distant in person. I rejoice that this  
Evening I can commit my thoughts,  
though feebly, to paper and send them  
hence. But how shall I address  
you? Shall I write as to a dear one  
whom I have not seen for months?  
or shall I be compelled to remember  
that only three days ago I shook you  
by the hand. I cannot realize it.  
I can scarcely believe that when you left  
for home perhaps where I shall not see you  
for months; that I could not even whisper  
a fond Good bye, but merely bid you

Dover March 25th/62

My Dearest Lou

I am Alone in my Studio. And throwing aside the cares of the day I seat myself to address you a few lines, a task I am happy to perform. Not that I wish you far from me that I may write you but as fate seems to decree that we must live distant in person I rejoice that this Evening I can commit my thoughts, though feebly, to paper and send them hence. But how shall I address you? Shall I write as to a dear one whome I have not Seen for months? or Shall I be compelled to remember that only three days ago I shook you by the hand. I cannot realize it. I can Scarcely believe that when you left for home perhaps where I shall not see you for months; that I could not even whisper a fond Good bye but merely bid you



a formal good night; hasten to my carriage and drive sorrowfully away.

I left at least an hour earlier than I anticipated; from the fact that I could not stay longer under the circumstances. for I knew how the result would go, and the sooner I left the better it would be, if you ever were placed as I was last Sunday Evening. You can judge something of my feelings as I rode home. I

thought if I could have only repeated the vows I <sup>have</sup> often made to you if I could again have told you that I loved you it would have been differently. But I could not - and now as I look back upon it as something of the past, I cannot but feel that happiness is frequently a mere bauble; attracts the attention for a moment and then vanishes. That when we anticipate the most pleasure the cup is <sup>often</sup> embittered.

a formal good night hasten to my carriage and drive sorrowfully away. I left at least an hour earlier than I anticipated; from the fact that I could not stay longer under the circumstances. for I knew how the result would go and the sooner I left the better it would be, if you ever were placed as I was last Sunday Evening you can judge something of my feelings as I rode home. I thought if I could have only repeated the vows I [inserted text] have [end inserted text] often made to you if I could again have told you that I loved you it would have been differently. But I could not and now as I look back upon it as something of the past, I cannot but feel that happiness is frequently a mere bauble; attracts the attention for a moment and then vanishes. That when we anticipate the most pleasure the cup is [inserted text] often [end inserted text] embittered.



But Lou I must <sup>not</sup> write thus  
or you will think I am sad. I am  
not really sad. Yet could our  
association have been more  
sociable in its character while you  
were up, it of course would have  
had its effect. But I still hope  
that we will meet again soon  
under more favorable circumstances  
at which time I hope to say  
some things which I would not  
commit to paper. Now do not  
let that remark raise your  
curiosity because the reasons for  
not writing <sup>it</sup> may be trivial.

Lou let me hope your cold  
is by this time <sup>entirely</sup> well.

I was extremely sorry to see you  
go home so poorly and I was  
afraid the ride would make  
it worse. However I shall expect  
to hear from you soon and to  
hear that you are in good health.

But Lou I must [inserted text] not [end inserted text]  
write thus or you will think I am sad. I am not really  
sad. Yet could our association have been more  
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course would have had its effect. But I still hope  
that we will meet again soon under more favorable  
circumstances at which time I hope to say some  
things which I would not commit to paper. Now do  
not let that remark raise your curiosity because the  
reasons for not writing [inserted text] it [end inserted  
text] may be trivial.

Lou let me hope your cold is by this time [deleted  
text][inserted text] is [end inserted text][end deleted  
text] entirely well. I was extremely sorry to see  
you go home so poorly and I was afraid the ride  
would make it worse. However I shall expect to hear  
from you soon and to hear that you are in good  
health.



And Lou when you write I want  
you if possible to write a long  
letter. when you get tired of  
writing just remember that I have  
not received a letter from you  
for three months, and then I know  
you will begin again.

I would like to write more  
but my paper warns me  
to close. You must pardon the  
mistakes and blunders as I have  
not the time possibly to copy.

You may be surprised to hear  
from me so early but I cannot  
but think that weeks have gone  
by since I saw you. let me  
again inscribe my best wishes  
in regard to your health, and  
again remind you to write early  
if you can and

I am as ever

Lou J Seward

yours till death

T M Reynolds

NB direct your letter to Dover

Dover

I am progressing finely in my  
Studies.

I watched anxiously for you on Monday  
morning but you must have passed  
while I was at breakfast. as ever  
TM Reynolds

And Lou when you write I want you if possible to  
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me again inscribe my best wishes in regard to your  
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[underline] can [end underline] and

I am as ever

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