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Transcriptions by Center for Digital Collections staff.

Alexandria Va May 21st 1864

My Dearest Lou

Your thrice welcome letter of May 10th came to hand on yesterday. I had waited long and anxiously for it, and assure you that I never more gladly welcomed one of your letters. I came into Alexandria on yesterday to see some of our Delaware Boys who are ordered to the "front". The 3rd Regt. of Infantry, and the 1st Del. Cavalry left here an hour since, and by this time are steaming down the noble Potomac River, to join in the next fight before Richmond.

Our Regiment is still out near Bull Run, but I have no idea how long we will remain.

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moving all the old Regiments forward that have been on duty in the defences of Washington.

I don't think we have any reason to complain however for although we have seen a great deal of hard service, we have never been in any very hard fights. The Battles raging now are the last to be fought for the preservation of this Government, and it will be a proud recollection for me to know that I did my part. Son I have written you several letters in the past few weeks, and am glad that by this time, you have learned that I was mistaken in regard to our not being allowed to write. The time may come when I cannot write you promptly but remember that while it would

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^{be} painful to both of us, yet it will not last long. The days of the Confederacy, I think, are well nigh numbered. The fighting is still very severe and while I write I can see in the distance a long train of Ambulances crowded with the wounded from the front.

Another ten days may close the hard fighting as the papers this morning say that the decisive battle is even now being fought.

I must not dwell much longer on this subject as it is one that is not pleasing. But let me say that if we do move I will inform you at once until you hear again address your letters as before.. I am glad to know that your health is good, you must keep your spirits up in this dark hour, look only to the bright side of the picture. I am enjoying

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I am enjoying

very good health, the warm weather is always hard to me.

Two more weeks and I shall have been in the service 2 years so you see my time is rapidly rolling on. I shall soon begin to count the months that separate us would to Heaven they were past.

I must close shortly. I have no special news to tell you. Say to Sister Mary that she may send me a Photograph if she will and I will prize it highly. I believe she has one of mine. Don I will write in a day or two. Good Bye

Ever yours only
L. J. Seward
write very soon

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