

Hokesville April 26.

My Dear Wife: Capt. King by the General in New York
The specimen of the bird I sent you was sent to
me by mail of the 20th this evening. As you may re-

thing of having said \$50 I suppose my letter has not yet come
to hand, altho as it was mailed on the 15th, it ~~had~~ had time
to reach you. I hope it will have been rec'd ere this. It would
be a shame for "poor folks" like us to lose so much money.

With this I send you some Virginia wild-flowers; one is a
Spring-beauty, another a butter-cup, I believe, but the
other two I do not know and think, I have never seen
them in the woods at home. The blue one is a pretty
little flower; the white is not, yet answers very well
to best in a more-gay. By the way, what is the etymology
of more-gay. Look in ^{to} Webster and see where the
word came from. I have not been the woods for
flowers before, but thinking I saw some yesterday

I did not mean to write a letter, merely a note. I shall try to write again and send you some more many of the other day.

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While riding from one camp to the other, I went out to see this morning. Not having much time, as I wished to send some in Sella's letter, I only obtained four varieties two of which are common at home, and the others also, for all I know. Since the trillium affair I have very little confidence in my knowledge of flowers. —

I have answered your questions relating to the office in my other letters. Singular to say I have not heard a word from Robert, why I don't know. Perhaps I offended him in my letter, but I don't think I did. It would be a satisfaction to know whether he is doing anything, whether I have any chance, or whether he has given the matter up as a bad job. I suppose I must be patient and wait till the newspapers tell me the story. At any rate, I shall not write any more to Robert on the subject, let it go as it may, unless he first writes to me. I candidly don't think I have much of a chance, but in spite of myself I catch myself now and then saying 'houses in Spain' upon that uncertain foundation. Yet, if I live to get back home again I mean to try and make something out of a certain idea or two which has occurred to me within a few days.