

must fancy a hen with an immense brood of chickens, when there is danger near. The captain went first, with a lady on each arm, and we chickens hurried after, keeping up as well as we could, and all having our eyes steadily fixed on the foremost trio; while the captain every once in a while looked back over either shoulder, to see that none of us fell by the way or lost ourselves. But after all his hurry and exertion, which was entirely unnecessary, for we could have gone quietly by ourselves exactly as well, we were seated in the cars some time before they started. No sooner was I fairly seated, than my companion began to extol the captain for his great politeness. I knew if I dissented, I should only puzzle and disgust her with my strong-mindedness, so I laughed in my —bonnet, and demurely replied, that he was very attentive. Whenever there is the least need of or occasion for it, I like such kindness and care, but to have so much ado about nothing, is simply annoying. As, however, the other ladies didn't seem to consider it so, I think I must be strong-minded and masculine, and lack the helplessness becoming my sex; though I could have endured the act itself, and not made the least objection, if there had not been so many repetitions of, "There—stay there—wait there till I come." But it was all so kindly intended that I felt no inclination to say I thought it needless.

I have neglected every day to finish this letter, till more than a week has passed, which I have spent in taking a peep at my friends, and saying good-bye again; for I spend no time with any but A——, as she is an invalid, and the one that I came expressly to visit, and a part in visiting one or two public places. One day soon after I came, I made one of a party of six who went out on a blackberrying excursion. We had a merry time; rode out ten miles into the country, and then walked about half a mile to the berry field, where, pre-