

(John Humphreys Blair)
New York. 37 West 37th St.
April 11th.

My dear Lucius.

I was about writing to you when your letter came - I wanted to tell you of a conversation I had with my Brother, in reference to your suggestion of a wish for a newspaper correspondence. He told me he could give you letters of introduction to all or any of the chief newspaper men here, although his interest with them is not greater than acquaintance would warrant - when I mentioned that Bayard Taylor was a kind friend of yours - he said he could be of more service to you in such a direction than almost anyone. - You will let me know if you care to have these introductions - My own idea is, that a series of magazine articles illustrated - would be more in your style, than letters to the daily press, such a project as that of the Wagner festival, suggested to Harper - might be worth-while. You see I can only

1 make suggestions, I have no personal power of any kind - unless I may except that of unlimited sympathy - upon which you may draw to any extent. Now in reference to the contents of your letter - they are like yourself and satisfy me, how well my intuition has led me in choosing you for my coadjutor - I need not assure you again I am sure - that you are perfectly understood by me, and that you need suffer no pain in being perfectly frank with me. I do not doubt that you will find Mr Cushman in all ways a reasonable and kind man to deal with - as well as a just one - I have great confidence in him. He is coming East now so soon - that I think it will be better not to write to him on the subject - ten minutes conversation is worth dozens of letters. - Mrs. Cushman will be in the city

on Thursday and I shall talk with her about it, whatever
she wishes - he will do - and I know she is deeply interested
in the memoir.

You may depend on my letting you know the very moment
I can what my conclusion is - Do not fail to keep me
posted as to your movements.

I am glad indeed if I have been of any comfort to
you - and shall hope to be still more so, in the
future. - Always yours faithfully
E.S.