

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, May 11, 1877, with transcript

Valuable A most interesting letter by Mr. Alexander Graham Bell to Miss Mabel Hubbard, dated May 11, 1877 found by Mr. Gilbert H. Grosvenor at the bottom of a cabinet packed with rubbish, July 1923. GRAND UNION HOTEL, New York, Friday, May 11th, 1877 My darling May:

I don't suppose it is of much use — my writing to you tonight, for I shall probably be in Cambridge as soon as my letter. Still I do so, and shall run a race with this note to see which will reach you first.

I have spent a pleasant day in New York, and this evening Mr. Vanderlip had a select party of gentlemen meet me at the St. Denis Hotel.

I can't begin to remember the names of all who were present, but can only recall Mr. Prescott and Mr. Wood of the M. U. Company — Gen. Eckert, Mr. Appleburgh and others of the A. & P. Co. Professors — Nesberry, Rood, Russell, Barnard, etc., etc., Dr. Rest and Mr. Greenberger and a host of newspaper men, notebooks and pencils, all of which were brought into requisition. President Barnard of Columbia College introduced me.

Mr. Gower was stationed in Brooklyn and talked and sang with great success. I shall be anxious to see the papers tomorrow. Everything went off well. I feel quite disheartened at the pecuniary results of the Boston lectures. The total result of the three Boston lectures, the Providence one, and the Manchester one — is \$150. over and above expenses (!!!) So that whatever I receive from Mr. Gower is so much out of his pocket. You seem to be receding far away out of my reach, and I do not know what to do. I shall try darling to be as cheerful and bright as I can, but I wish you would let me run away and hide myself in Exeter Place — when I am dull and in low spirits and not cast a shadow over all of you

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so much. I have come here so as not to disturb anyone at your grandfather's tomorrow morning — as I must leave for 2 Springfield early in the morning.

Your grandfather was with us this evening and I was glad to see Gertrude looking so bright and well.

With much love, Your own, Alec.