

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Alexander Melville Bell, October 10, 1870, with transcript

Copy of a letter written by Alexander Graham Bell to his father. Home, Monday, October 10th, 1870. Dear Papa:

All the packages are here at last and we are busy getting at the contents. We have opened five or six boxes. There seems to be a grand smash amongst the glass and crockery. I trust the insurance may cover the loss. A basketful of broken plates stands in one corner and some pieces of the Desert Service in another. Not one of the glass shades has stood the journey. Those breakages that look at all mendable are put aside. I enclose the advices notes received from G. T. R. so that you may see the charges. I paid altogether including duty \$105.01. I brought a few cases home on our wagon. The first load of only six boxes (as I had not paid for more) I got one of Blacker's teams to take. The man had the face to ask 10 yolk shil.! I gave him half a dollar and refused to let him finish the job. I got hold of Mr. Emmet who brought out the rest. He leaves the payment to me and will be glad to receive it in apples . We are picking the apples as fast as we can. I have bought 10 empty barrels at 20 cents each and we are barrelling some and putting others in the cellar. Mr. Shuttleworth has given me an order for 10 barrels of apples at 40 cents a bushel. This will be just \$10. He will supply the barrels. We are to fill them and he will come here and pack them.

The book-case has been put up and looks very well. Cost \$6.

Unless I manage to sell some more apples we shall soon be 2 running short of cash. I have \$7 in hand and just \$20 in cheques left. This with the apples makes a total of \$37 to come and go upon.

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I received an order on Saturday for a Standard from Mr. Puralow of Porthope. He enclosed 85 cents. We expect the Radfords this afternoon. It is an awkward time for them to come, as it may seriously hamper us in regard to unpacking and getting in the apples.

The books seem to have come in excellent order. We trust you are well and not getting over worked. I wrote to Belleville offering to give them a lecture on Visible Speech. Not heard yet.

With love in which all join. I am

Your affectionate son, A. Graham Bell. Prof. A. M. Bell.