

Letter from Alexander Melville Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, August 13, 1879

Melville House, Tutelo Heights, Brantford, Ont., August 13th, 1879. (No envelope) My dear Al.,

Three matters of business wait on the overcoming of your inertia. (1) The purchase of shares in the R. L. S. Co., respecting which I enclose a letter from the Secretary. I sent you his former letter which ought to have been answered immediately. When you see people take trouble on your account the least you can do is to be prompt in acknowledgment. (2) The Professorship in the School of Oratory. You requested a telegram, which was sent, and we have had no information since. (3) The purchase of the Canadian patents. You have of course seen Mr. Smith since he had copy of my agreement with the Dom. Tel. Co. and you should let me know the result. These delays are very annoying and inconsiderate. I hope to hear from you by return of post. In about one month I shall have to go into Court on patent business if no arrangement can be made in the meantime. There is not a day to lose. You know what I have at stake. "Act, act in the living present!" The last news of Chester was not so favourable. He is ordered to lie up at the seaside and to have the abscesses opened. Your Aunt goes with him and thus all is 2 indefinite as to their future arrangements. Aileen has gone to Ireland. We have delightful weather now. We are all ready for you as soon as you can come. Mamma joins me in love to Mabel, Elsie and yourself.

Kind regards to Mrs. Hubbard and family. Now be a good fellow and write at once-now-before doing anything else!

Your affectionate father, Alex. Melville Bell.