

## Letter from Alexander Melville Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, September 18, 1879

Melville House, Tutelo Heights, Brantford, Ont., Can., September 18th, 79. (No envelope)

My dear Al.,

I returned last night from a visit to Mr. Swinyard, Manager Dom. Tel. Co. Mr. S. is not prepared to make any offer, but he wishes to be informed of any offer we may receive, that he may submit the question of an overbid to the Jay Gould Co. I still feel that our patent should be in the hands of the Bell Co. The opposition however which has been very active of late, greatly lessens the value of the patent; and the existence of the lawsuits prevents the possibility of raising a Canadian Co. Without a clear title investors would not have anything to do with the patent. I do not think it is worth anything like the amount you spoke of. I shall offer to put the whole matter in Mr. Williams' hands to make the most he can of it, if he will pay me-say \$45,000. for my interest. Remember our low rates of leasing, without which we should have done no business. I think \$60,000. a fair price for the entire right as things stand, and I am disposed to close at that rate rather than speculate. I would recommend you to sell all you can safely dispose of while you can get the enormous premium at which the stock stands. I cannot conceive the possibility of buyers getting value received for their money at such a rate. 2 Your Uncle went with me to Hamilton and Toronto and we greatly enjoyed our little trip. We find all well on our return. Satisfactory news of Chester. Will resume work in October. Aunt and Aileen will be here early in November. What about the frictional transmitter patent? All join me in love to Mabel, Elsie and yourself and regards to all the Hubbard family. We are counting the days till the first of October!

Your affectionate father, Alex. Melville Bell.