

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, December 28, 1875, with transcript

Queen's Hotel, Toronto. Dec. 28th, 1875. My darling May,

Here I am in Toronto a fixture for the present. I don't know how long I shall have to remain. Hon. George Brown wants to see me again tomorrow although we have had two long interviews today. It is very hard to remain here patiently & quietly. I want to rush right back to Brantford as I suspect there is a letter waiting for me there from you. However tonight I must try to banish you altogether from my thoughts — although you know that is an impossibility. Still I must try to discipline my heart so that I can work and think of you too — otherwise I shall never accomplish anything.

It is pretty evident that George Brown intends taking up telegraphy abroad for me — still I don't allow myself to indulge in too many hopes lest I should be disappointed.

He asked me to state definitely what interest I would be willing to give him — so I offered him one-half interest in any patents he would take out abroad for me. He stated that the proposition was satisfactory and that he would take the night to think of it. I am to meet him tomorrow at eleven o'clock. In the meantime I intend to employ myself upon telegraphy.

I shall make drawings of the instruments & line-connections and think the whole subject over very carefully — so as to be prepared to state exactly what I want done for me.

I shall imagine your looking over my shoulder and helping me on — and then your face will not stand between my paper and my thoughts! — and I can work.

Every moment of my time is valuable tonight — so I shall stop here — lest I be tempted to pen a long letter to you — so good night from

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Your loving Alec. Miss Mabel Hubbard Brattle St. — Cambridge, Mass.