

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

Letter from Miss Mabel Hubbard to Mr. Alexander Graham Bell. (1877) 10East 14th St., Monday. My darling Alec:

Your visit here seems like some bright beautiful dream. We have settled down to our old routine and everything goes the same even way I can hardly realize you have been here. How we talked and planned! I am looking out anxiously and eagerly for your Visible Speech letter. Only pray do give me a sight of your handwriting now and then or I shall begin preserving the envelopes which is dreadfully inconvenient and not consoling, for the writing. there is not meant for me but the postman, and I object decidedly to sharing my treasures with him.

Did you catch the car in time? You wicked fellow staying here all night without our knowing it. I can hardly forgive you. Did you find any letters from Mr. Ponton awaiting you? Be sure you write to Mr. Pollock and send those bills to Papa.

Also don't forget to go see Cousin Mary and show your German letter to Prof. Norsford. Cousin Sam could read it but Prof. Norsford could tell you if the man is to be trusted. If I translated aright he wants a share in your foreign patents, perhaps to buy them. Anyway it is important and must be attended to.

I am so tired and "headachy" as you call it today the result of a sleepless night in which you and your telephone haunted me like a nightmare. How strong you must be to stand whole courses of sleepless nights without breaking down.

Mamma fared worse I think and today has been trotting around after some wall paper with Grandpa it is always a great undertaking to go shopping with him and she is tired out.

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Oh what do you think I did when it became too light for sleep and too early by two or three hours to get up? Calculated how much you 2 spent every week, month and year in postage stamps !!! giving 10 letters as an average every day at 5 cents each it makes \$100.10— One Hundred Dollars and ten cents a year, supposing you only spent one cent (postal card) on half of them it would make a saving of \$40.00 at the year's end, with which you could buy a year's subscription to two or three English papers!!!! --- Now won't you be more careful?

I must go out and buy some oil paper, In haste with much love, Your own, Mabel.