

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, 1878, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Sunday, (1878) My darling Alec:

I am tired this afternoon and haven't much to say. Poor little Elsie has not been feeling very happy since you went. I cannot see why there was any need for the revaccination. The first mark has grown and grown until I am sure you would own that it is big enough. The red part was as large as a halfpenny piece yesterday. Today it is rather smaller, but the mark itself is bigger. I am so anxious to hear from you and all about yourself and friends, it seems an age since your letter came. Can't you bring as a cross or cross and beads of Irish bay-wood handsomely carved. It would be a sort of souvenir of Dublin and I do think it would be so nice to take back some little thing from each famous place we visit, bring also a pretty photograph of the city or most famous building.

Please excuse this Elsie is having her "four o'clock tea" she sends a kiss below and wants her Papa to come home and swing her some more. Yesterday was a half-crown day at the Palace so we could not go. Sister has baby now, I blotted her dress so that was the end then. Bessie took baby to church this afternoon. We have been out for a Kiss from baby drive since I began this. There are very many pretty semidetached houses here. I am anxious to have you see them and get some ideas for our house. There is a Convent outside the town, a handsome new building among thick trees. We had beautiful views of the Palace, but there does not seem to be much to see. Norwood looks like a new town not yet finished building, and there is nothing picturesque about it.

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Mamma is anxious about your trousers, and so am I, they were all such entertained by that description. I hope you have written to Max Muller and Mr. Sollaston. If you present the

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telephones you will probably have to go to Balmoral, that will be such a good chance for you to see Edinburgh again. What a nice time you must be having. I know all the scientific men will be so glad to see and honor you, and you will be so much the better for it all your life long.

Our rooms are "23 St., Aubyne Road" there is hardly a garden for the house is in the middle of a sort of long place and there is no back to it, but Mamma thinks sister well enough to do without the hammock now.

I can't possibly evolve anything more out of my inner consciousness so be content with a great deal of love. I am trying to read Spencer, and want you to help me.

Stay as long as you can, Mamma says they keep the biggest fireworks until the last so stay for them.

Ever yours, Mabel.