

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, January 24, 1894, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. 1328 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C. January 24th 1894. My darling Alec:

I arrived all right this morning and find all just recovering from attacks of the grippe. They were mostly in bed last week, today the invalids are all out again, and ready to be glad to see me. Grace must have had a time at her reception last week, Helen and Gracie down with high fever, a trained nurse in the house Charlie still coughing, and she so tired and nearly ill that she did not know how she managed to stand up through the party. They would have put it off, but the fever did not declare itself until that very morning.

There seems no doubt about Mr. Charles Carter's death while assisting to repel disorder, but what I am still more sorry for is the uncertainty that hangs over the fate of poor Jack Hubbard. He sailed from here for Barcelona, Spain in a sailing vessel in charge of a patient, and the vessel is now six weeks overdue, and has never been heard from since she sailed out of Hampton Roads. Jack had made his arrangements to practice here as a physician this fall.

My white satin is a stunner, I wish you were going to see your wife in all her white finery tonight. It' stands about two yards out on each side of me, and has a little wire all around the bottom to make it stand out. The children are coming to see me dress tonight. Elsie is very well, Daisy not as well or strong as I wish. Elsie seems quite willing to accept anything we want. Gyp. has shot up like Alice in Wonderland and is nearly as tall as I. Mamma is very well and very pretty, ditto my father. Gyp. is nearly a full fledged young lady, only my white satin keeps me from feeling as old as Methuselah.

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Good night, come soon to yours ever,