

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, November 9, 1894, with transcript

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL TO MABEL (Hubbard) BELL Parker House, Boston. Friday, Nov. 9, 1894. My darling Mabel:

Your letters received — and I too will try to follow your example of writing every day — if only one line. Miss True and her pupil arrived here this afternoon. By the by — I thought you intended to invite them to Beinn Bhreagh.

I was mortified this evening when I told Miss True that I hoped to find her at B.B. on my return — to find that she had not received any invitation! I thought you told me you had invited her — so I felt bound to refer to it. Perhaps you don't want them — if so — don't invite them on my account alone. I do not want them there unless you want them too.

Been hard at work upon my Address — not the past one, but the coming! Dictated to a stenographer till 10 o'clock tonight. If I can speak half as well to my audience tomorrow as I did to the stenographer tonight — my Address will do good.

George McKeen called. Mr. Geo. L. Roberts called — (not finished taking testimony in the Government case yet.) Telephonic talk with Mr. Hudson (Testimony already taken will cost the United States between fifty and seventy thousand dollars — to print alone — quite apart from counsel fees — witnesses and etc., — my evidence didn't cost them much?!). Mr. Storrow has left for California. Family troubled about his son's betrothal to a Yakima girl. The blue blood of Boston aroused. Mr. Storrow intends to be in at the wedding — to bless — or to ban. Deponent knoweth not which.

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Your Uncle Eustis called — says that your father reports that your mother is so delighted with the recovery of her sight — that she sleeps “ with one eye open ” so as not to lose one moment of pleasure. Elias Marsh called while I was out and left his card. Have written to him.

Reporters from the newspapers have not called — so I will say goodnight and go on with my work.

What do you think of the political upheaval. Earthquake in Washington. Tidal wave overwhelms the Capitol — Volcanic eruption affects the whole of the United States — everything topsy-turvy. The civil was reversed — Liberty and freedom (in trade) the banner of the South — and slavery that of the North! — but the North still wins. I am glad I haven't a vote for an the question of Tariff (how do you spell it?) I'm sadly perplexed — and declare I cannot decide whether I am a Republican or a Democrat. I'm a Hugwump that's just what I am — a cross between the two.

Your loving husband, Alec.