

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, June 19, 1895, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. June 19th 1895.
My dear Alec:

Honestly do you think you deserve a letter? Well perhaps you do because you let me go and consigned yourself to solitude and loneliness. So I will forgive you yet again and write you if only to say "Good Morning". Yet while I write this you are probably fast asleep in our dear little bedroom with your breakfast tray beside you. It is nearly two with us now and therefore ten with you. I am sitting with hat and veil on waiting for Daisy to finish her lesson, then we are going to the Louvre to buy ourselves hats and at seventy-five cents each. I wish you knew enough of woman's apparel and its cost to appreciate what an astounding statement this is. Ask Mrs. Kennan, Mrs. McCurdy says her new ones have cost \$23.00 each. Well these hats are all trimmed and ever so pretty and not a bit cheap-looking.

By the way ask John McAulay to send you up some bran and get Maggie to make a bag of coarse crash and put the bran in it and put the whole thing in your bath and scrub your face with it. I've had a bran bath and my face is so soft it's just like velvet I want to stroke it all the time.

Well we went to Madame de Pomars yesterday, and it was a caution. Daisy said she never had been in such a swell house, she seems to have forgotten all the glories of Versailles. Well there were lackies at every turn, and we went through a rather low cellar-like rez de Chaussée which I did not think had a hospitable feeling. From this low dark series of halls we suddenly emerged 2 into a high vast white hall with marble steps, red velvet covered ascending into it. I thought of Ivan the Terrible's low door at the Kremlin made so that his proud boyars should bend their heads before coming into his presence. Coming from the

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lowness downstairs into the highness above seemed design where we were to be received by her Highness the Countess,— Duchess seemed designed to produce much the same feeling in her visitors. The high white hall with its red marble pillars and tall palms proved to be the antechamber to another room a very large vaulted apartment at least twenty-five feet high lighted by a row of windows in the vaulting and another arched row immediately below. The lecture hall or theatre whatever they call it is not only beautifully proportioned, but opens out at the back into another large and white room.

(original letter unfinished)