

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, November 23, 1904, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Twin Oaks, Washington, D.C. (November 23, 1904.) My dear Alec:

Wasn't I mad to come home last night and find my letter where I left it already for me to take in to catch the mail which should have brought it to you Thanksgiving Day. No letter or telegram from you. I so want to hear. I think I have cause to be annoyed that Mr. Mitchell did not do something about the notice you received of the arrival of my shrubs. I thought he opened all your letters and acknowledged them — or at least that he opened and read them. It would have been a simple thing to have handed the notice on to me — it was so obviously for me. As it is the shrubs are now dead and I have not only lost my shrubs but a good many dollars beside— I don't just know how many, but possibly fifty.

We are going into town with Mamma the first of next week and house cleaning will begin. Then I shall be ready for you whenever you like to come after the middle of the week. We hate going in, but Mamma thinks she must. I hope you will at least like the dining room lights, there is still the problem of the library.

Isn't the Zemstvo meeting wonderful? I am watching it with the utmost interest. It is Russia following the footsteps of France?

Daisy has gone to work in drawing at the Corcoran Art Gallery. I did not want her to begin till Monday but she insisted. I wish you would write her a nice letter.

Mamma is so busy and happy in her preparations for Thanksgiving, 2 she is going to decorate the pulpit of the church with the ripened fruits of the earth instead of with flowers. Isn't that a fine idea of her own?

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Much love to you all, Yours, Mabel. Wednesday, Nov. 23rd