

## Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, November 1909, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Twin Oaks, Washington, D.C. (November 1909) My dear Alec:

We are all well. How are you? I want to know. Mr. Montrose has been here. He came on from New York to value the paintings and advise us as to their preservation. He was exceedingly nice and cordial and evidently retains very pleasant recollections of his intercourse with Papa and Mamma.

He valued the Corot at between \$12000.00 and \$15000.00, which he thinks is it's high water mark.

I do not think you would care about our retaining anything so valuable. I love the picture for itself and for Papa and Mamma's love for it, but I think we could get more for our money in some other way. Another picture is valued at between \$2000.00 and \$4000.00, this Elsie wants, but I don't think I care that for it. The Max Myles have appreciated in value. Charlie has become so impressed with the value of almost everything here that he has not delayed an hour in having the insurance increased.

The Fairchildren are coming to stay with me here and I am more and more thankful that I decided to stay. Now everything can proceed quietly and with dignity as Mamma did everything to the end.

It is lovely here and — I wish we could make this our winter home as Beinn Bhreagh is our summer one. With automobiles it is not so far from town but what we could continue your Wednesday evenings, but I am 2 afraid the cost would be utterly prohibitive. Helen, Grace and Gipsey want Grace and Charlie to keep it and suggest the possibility of doing so if

## Library of Congress

they left their own share in the property and Charlie may yet do so as it is certainly a very good investment. The place is taxed by the square foot and there are forty-five acres of it.

Much love, Your Mabel.