

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, June 27, 1911

Beinn Bhreagh, near Baddeck, Nova Scotia. June 27, 1911. Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell, 1331 Conn. Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. Dear Mabel:

Have just received your note of June 23, 1911 "not blankety-blankety-bank". I do hope you can get rid of the Bellair property and convert it into cash.

Bert and the children & Co. arrived safely in the middle of the night. I went on to Iona to meet them with two motor boats in attendance. The Kiaora and Galdrie. Also had a horse and wagon at the station so that we should not be obliged to carry all the sleepy children down to the boat. However, they didn't seem to be sleepy at all. All wide awake and happy. The dear little baby as good as gold and Alec pleased to have a ride behind a horse. In fact he didn't care to leave the horse and cried when he came to the boat. But smiles soon came after we started so that I have no doubt that he is all right although he looks so pale. Maggie had provided mattresses and lots of blankets in which we wrapped the children up. Side curtains were placed upon the boat so as to convert it into a sort of tent and we all made the journey comfortably. It was very funny to see Bert and the procession coming down from the train to the boat at Iona. It reminded me of a hen with a brood of ducklings in 2 charge!

They arrived about 4 a.m. and were very glad to get into bed. We have little Alec at the Point for the present until they all get settled down at the Lodge.

I now have my office in the Kite House and we are gradually bringing order out of chaos there.

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Dr. Crouter and Miss Yale are very anxious to have me attend the meeting of the A.A.P.T.S.D. at Rochester, New York on July 5. I hate to go into the hot weather of the States but have the feeling that the meeting is to be an important one and that my presence is needed. I have not decided yet; but should I go could not you and Elsie join me there and come home by Toronto and The Thousand Islands?

I have just read the Farmers' Reports to Davidson about the six-nippled lambs born this year on their places. They report a total of 171 lambs; and of these 18, or 10.5% had six nipples or more. (15 6n, and 3 7n). From this you will see that our attempts to secure the co-operation of the farmers have been most successful. It is not likely that all of these 6n + lambs will be produced in the autumn, but it is obvious that we shall have a great influx of new blood into the flock. I am taking advantage of this fact to cut down our present flock keeping only the very best. I have analyzed the returns of the outside lambs in accordance with the grade of the father in our new system of classification.

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In Class A are placed 6n rams who do not have both parents 6n. Outside lambs 70; and of these four, or 5.7% were 6n.

In Class B are placed 6n rams with both parents 6n; but who do not have all four grandparents 6n. Result:— 81 lambs of which 8 or 9.9% are 6n.

In Class C are placed 6n rams having both parents, and four grand-parents 6n; but who do not have all their 8 great-grand-parents 6n. Result:— 20 lambs of which 6 or 30% are 6n.

Lambs % Class Total 6n 6n A rams 70 4 5.7 B rams 81 8 9.9 C rams 20 6 30.0

Your loving Alec.