

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, undated, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. My dear Alec:

I am very sorry if my telegram this morning disappointed you. If it was really my duty to go if you were sick and needed me I would go at once, but if it is only to share the honors that are being shown you, I had far, far rather be here. While I am here at hand I don't feel the least alarmed about the little ones, but the more idea of leaving them for Montreal brought back all my old nervousness. If Montreal were not so far I would go, but fourteen or fifteen hours at the very least is more than I could bear to put between my children and myself. I should enjoy being at your side and seeing how the people admired you, and am very sorry I cannot.

Have you seen young Mr. Perkins. Attentions from you to young men just starting are very graceful and much prized by them, so do all you can for young men and women too. I think young men are much attracted by you, do all you can for them, I am always so proud when I see how they honor you. And it will be good for you too. Don't forget little Mabel Henderson's nest egg, or Alec Ballachey's either, my love to Carrie I do like her so much poor thing.

We have done little since last accounts but sit around the fire, which is welcome at last. Shall I meet you at Portsmouth I have a hankering after that place. Much love — I don't like to write about Louisa, but should not wonder if disorganized womanly functions had something to do with her wanderings. Her thinking of such things would show it. At all events no need to worry now. The change if it comes at all is coming so gradually that your family 2 will be prepared. Carrie seemed perfectly sane up to the night before her act. No one suspected her in the least.

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Lovingly, Mabel.