

Letter from Marian Bell Fairchild to Alexander Graham Bell, June 18, 1895, with transcript

Letter from Miss Daisy Bell to her father, Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Paris, France. 10 rue Nitot. June 18, 1895. My darling Papa:

I don't think it was a bit nice of you to say that we would find that all our boasted knowledge was ignorance, and I am happy to tell you that we didn't find any such thing — now! Elsie is learning a French song and I am informed that “si voue saviez” something would happen, I don't know what. We are going out with Elsie's singing teacher as soon as the lesson is over. In spite of the “blazing heat” that caused “several people to be carried to the nearest chemist shops” it was only 46° Fahr. and now I see a few hail stones. Mamma wouldn't show us your cablegram and now she has written you a very mysterious letter, do cable me immediately what it is. I am dying of curiosity. I have the funniest little music teacher, she about comes up to my shoulder and is nearly as broad as she is high. She thinks that if I took lessons from her for a few years I might be able to play very well. If at any lesson I have been particularly forgetful about my sharps and flats she tells me that I am very “intellegente” and she says “bien” as I strike a wrong note or start a hard bar. Elsie is beginning to sing very well without having the air played. Mlle. Foley won't do more than start her after the long rests. Sunday we went to the Jardin d' Acclimatation where we went the Mauros. It is lots of fun being where nobody knows you, we rode on a dromedary (I had forgotten how to spell it in English and had to look in the French 2 dictionary) and had a lovely time generally. The sweet little baroness has gone and so has my funny old baroness and so there's only one baroness left. There is one nun here that looks ever so much like Douglas, she has eyes just like his. Please tell Mr. McCurdy that Mother mounted the photographs for me and they form a very prominent ornament in our room and they are very much admired. I have to go now.

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Your loving Daisy.