

Letter from Gardiner Greene Hubbard to Alexander Graham Bell, December 4, 1878, with transcript

L 1878 Bele Telephone G.G.H. to Alec. Dec. 4 negotiations with A. G B Washington, D.C. regarding his employment as electrician

I had a letter from Mr. Bradley yesterday saying he would see you before deciding upon employing you. I think you will be very much pleased with him, and I know he will agree to your terms if he thinks we can afford it.

Neither Mr. Sanders nor myself have any salary at present, though we both expect to receive one as soon as the company is in a position to pay it. If the company pay you the amount due — say 1600— and give you one thousand dollars a quarter or rather #333 a month will not that be sufficient until the company are in a stronger position financially.

If we make an arrangement with you I think you can live here better than in any other place. At New York you could undoubtedly 2 A. G. B as electrician B. S. Co be of more immediate service to the company, but your time would I fear be spent in answering questions in regard to the working of the Exchange system and in the improvement of details, rather than in making new and valuable improvements. Mr. Watson should be able with occassional conferences with you to perform the daily routine required by a resident electrician. We can find here and at Baltimore all material you require for making models etc. I think it will be for our interest to have you deliver lectures during the winter. Mr. Pollok said last evening that he could easily arrange for your Oxford course to be delivered at Lincoln Hall. Mr. Cornish would make arrangements for you to lecture in Philadelphia. These lectures will do as much good as anything you can do, by bringing you before the public.

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I shall write a little to England today, I am very glad to hear of the change in views of the managers of that company.

With much love to you and Mabel